



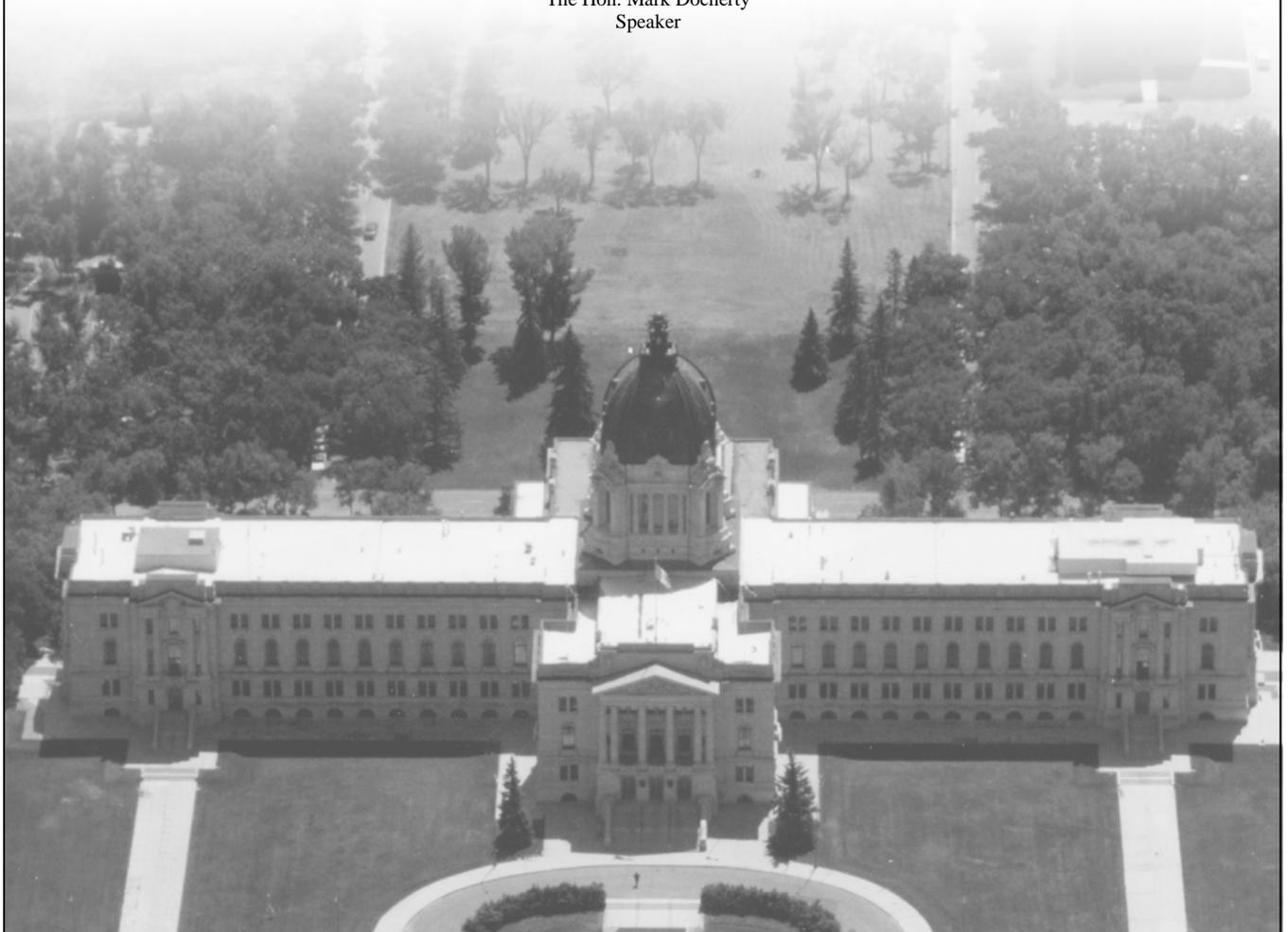
THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)
Published under the
authority of
The Hon. Mark Docherty
Speaker



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

Speaker — Hon. Mark Docherty
Premier — Hon. Scott Moe
Leader of the Opposition — Ryan Meili

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Lambert , Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)	Young , Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)
Lawrence , Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)	

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

Clerks-at-the-Table

Clerk — Gregory A. Putz

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's with great pleasure that I introduce to you and all members of the House a group of 25 public service employees that are seated in the Speaker's gallery. They are here today to take part in the parliamentary program for the public service, an annual event that gives public servants an opportunity to learn more about their Legislative Assembly.

The program includes a tour of the Legislative Building, briefings presented by various branches of the Legislative Assembly Service and Executive Council, an opportunity to sit in the Speaker's gallery and observe question period and other House business, and brief meetings with members from both sides of the House and with Mr. Speaker. The participants are employees of the following ministries: Highways and Infrastructure, Environment, Justice and Attorney General's office, the Public Service Commission, Justice, Corrections and Policing, court services, Agriculture, Central Services, Health, SaskBuilds, Social Services, Executive Council, and Energy and Resources.

I look forward, Mr. Speaker, to meeting with the group after question period, and I ask all hon. members to help me make them feel welcome in their Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And on that very note I'd like to join the Minister of the Public Service Commission in welcoming the public servants for the parliamentary program here to their Legislative Assembly.

And I guess, you know, the minister has well canvassed the many and varied ways that they help to serve the people of Saskatchewan in the different ministries and agencies that are represented here today. But I'd also like to further thank them for the work that they do on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan and to commend them for taking this interest in how the political side of the public service works here in Saskatchewan. It's been my experience, Mr. Speaker, they do this so that they can do their job even better.

So I look forward to meeting with them on behalf of the official opposition, as the official opposition Public Service Commission critic, later this afternoon. I follow after the Public Service Commission minister and that's always an interesting spot in the lineup, and before the Speaker, of course. But we look forward to that very much, and again I'd ask the Speaker and all members to join me in welcoming these public servants to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the west gallery we have some individuals who represent Enactus, which is a social innovation and entrepreneurship club at the University of Regina. They are working to shape our entrepreneurial leaders who are passionate about giving back to our community. Last spring they attended the Western Canadian regional exposition and took home third in financial foundations, Mr. Speaker. And our future looks very bright.

I would ask my members to join me in welcoming Lee Elliot, who is with them today, as well as Arslan Azeem; Syed Kamal; Abbas Syed; Amit Bains; Robyn Ham; Salmaan Moolla, who's known to many of us; Vansh Patel; Hasan Said-Ahmed; Frank Nordstrom; and Chandler Hack, all of whom I've had the opportunity to meet before. Welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

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

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

The Speaker: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member.

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the Minister of Advanced Education in welcoming this group of young leaders to their Legislative Assembly today.

And while I'm on my feet, I would also like to welcome a group located in the west gallery today, Mr. Speaker. I'll be delivering a member's statement later, but with us today we have a group of 10 student leaders from the Regina Catholic School Division, accompanied by no less than the director of education, Domenic Scuglia, located in the gallery with them today, Mr. Speaker.

These young student leaders . . . I'll describe more about their program today, but I do want to introduce them individually. If you would like to just give us a wave or stand up as I read your name out. We have Jensyn Semchuk, Bronwyn Heerspink, Evan Brick, Angie Ruter, Sarah Sweet, Hailey Link, Karrah Derenisky, Ashley Fisher, and Jordan Verbeek.

Mr. Speaker, I would invite all members to join me in welcoming these young student leaders to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Walsh Acres.

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the member opposite for giving me the opportunity to join her in welcoming these young leaders to their Legislative Assembly. As Regina MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] in the Sask Party, we were able to meet with this group with the Regina Catholic school board not too long ago

and listen to their concerns. It was great to hear some of their . . . and have their input as we move forward with our education curriculum.

And I just want to say one thing. Jordan Verbeek, her mom and dad are good friends of mine, and her little brother's birthday is today. So I'd like to wish Lukas Verbeek a happy birthday as well, and welcome them to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to rise today and introduce some guests in the west gallery where we will see three physicians from here in Regina: Solveig Nilson, Rejina Kamrul, and Dr. Sally Mahood. These three doctors are practising here in the city and providing great care. They're also advocates on behalf of expanding and improving our medicare system, including having pharmacare accessible for all patients throughout the country.

Along with them we have two guests in the opposite gallery, Darla Deguire and Deanna Ogle, who work with the Canadian Labour Congress. Deanna has just returned to Saskatchewan. She's in her third day of the job, where we're very happy to have her back. And they're also of course advocates for the rights of workers all across the country and have been doing some great work advocating for pharmacare. I'd like to ask all of the members to join me in inviting them to their legislature.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to this Assembly I'd like to join with the Leader of the Opposition in welcoming the doctors to their Legislative Assembly. We certainly appreciate the good work they do for all the citizens of the province, and I'd ask all members to please join me in welcoming them to their Assembly.

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

Mr. Fiaz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you, through you to all the members of this Assembly, I would like to introduce Indo-Can Seniors group sitting in the west gallery, Mr. Speaker.

They are all my constituents and I would like to introduce them. Raise your hand as I name yours: Govind Patel — he is the organizer of this group — Prashant Chokshi, Jagdish Patel, Ghanshyam Patel, Arvind Patel, Ramesh Patel, Pravin Patel, Khodabhai Patel, Dasarath Patel, Deepak Patel, Jayant Patel, Sunil Patel, Savita Patel, Labhuben Patel, and Gitaben Patel, Deviben Patel, and Dhanlaxmiben Patel.

And thank you very much for keeping all these seniors in social activities and in physical activities. I ask all the members to join me and welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — Welcome everyone.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Goudy: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm 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.

And I'd like to read the prayer:

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by the citizens of Borden and Langham. I do so present.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, I'm rising today to present a petition calling for a public inquiry into the GTH [Global Transportation Hub] land deal. The individuals who signed this petition would like to bring to our 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 and calling a public inquiry, the Sask Party government is hiding behind excuses.

Sask Party government continues to block key witnesses from providing testimony about the land deal, and as new details on the land deal continue to emerge, it shows Saskatchewan people still do not have the full story behind the GTH land deal. And, Mr. Speaker, of course it is Saskatchewan people who footed the bill for the GTH land deal and deserve nothing less than the truth.

So I'll read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

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

And, Mr. Speaker, the individuals who have signed this petition today come 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 on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan calling for pharmacare for Saskatchewan. And the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan want to bring the following to our attention: that Canada is the only country with a universal health care system that doesn't include prescription drug coverage, and this oversight results in unnecessary illness and suffering and costs us billions of dollars; and that over 90 per cent of Canadians agree that we need a national pharmacare program, which makes sense as one in five Canadians don't fill necessary prescriptions because the medications cost too much; and when we cover essential medications, we improve people's quality of life and save millions of dollars in downstream costs.

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

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.

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

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling on the government to restore public control over Wascana Park. The individuals who have signed this petition wish to bring to our attention the following: Wascana Park is a treasured urban park and conservation area that had been responsibly managed through an equal partnership between the city of Regina, the provincial government, and the University of Regina for over 50 years. The government unilaterally gave itself majority control of the board of the Provincial Capital Commission through the changes brought on by Bill 50, *The Provincial Capital Commission Act*, in 2017. And the city of Regina and the University of Regina have both expressed an openness to return to a governance model based on equality.

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 government to restore the governance structure of the Wascana Centre Authority and end the commercialization of Wascana Park.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals signing this petition today come from Regina. More specifically they come from the constituencies of Regina Lakeview and Regina Rochdale. I do so present.

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition to the Legislative Assembly calling for a \$15-an-hour minimum wage. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners are well aware that Saskatchewan, under the Sask Party, has come to have either the lowest or the second-lowest, and then back to the lowest soon this spring, Mr. Speaker, minimum wage in the whole of Canada.

[13:45]

The petitioners are pointing out that a minimum wage should never be a poverty wage. They point out that a \$15-an-hour minimum wage will improve health and well-being and lift Saskatchewan workers out of poverty. They point out that a \$15-an-hour minimum wage will benefit local businesses and support local economies by putting money in workers' pockets to spend in their community.

Mr. Speaker, in the prayer that reads as follows, the petitioners:

Respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of

Saskatchewan call on the Sask Party government to adopt a plan to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour for all workers.

Mr. Speaker, this particular petition, one of hundreds to come, Mr. Speaker, is signed by individuals from the good city of Moose Jaw. And I hear the member from Moose Jaw North calling out from his seat, so maybe he can answer his constituents. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Government's Track Record

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's very interesting to see the track record of the Saskatchewan Party. They say they're on track, but on track to what, Mr. Speaker? They have a string of broken promises as long as my arm. So it seems that they're on track to break most of the promises they have made.

They have promised to eliminate the PST [provincial sales tax] on used cars. Well that didn't last too long, Mr. Speaker. The Sask Party MLAs used to get up in this place and read petition after petition saying, don't tax our food. What did Brad Wall and Kevin Doherty do before getting out of Dodge and heading to greener pastures? They expanded the provincial sales tax to our food.

The Sask Party bragged about the creation of Enterprise Saskatchewan, only to shut 'er down a few years later. They promised set election dates, only to change them in nearly every election, Mr. Speaker. They promised a smaller cabinet; now it's back up to 18. They promised balanced budget legislation, which they scrapped almost two years ago. They promised to pay down the provincial debt; now they're on track to triple that debt to \$23 billion in 2022.

This is only a short list of broken promises, Mr. Speaker. There are many more. We can't forget the billion-dollar tax hike in one year. But the people of Saskatchewan should remember the Sask Party's track record. It's time for a change. It's time for them to go.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Lloydminster.

Pride of the Prairies Show and Sale

Ms. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this month the Lloydminster Exhibition Association's Pride of the Prairies Bull Show and Sale celebrated 100 years. Top-quality bulls from a variety of breeds in both pen and halter formats took centre stage in a very lively and exciting auction over the March 2nd to 4th weekend.

Mr. Speaker, this event has become a pillar in our community, and celebrating its centennial gave us time to reflect on the accomplishments of many generations of cattle farmers and our agriculture community. Not only does this event offer the best stock in the area, but it also helps boost local seed stock as producers bring their absolute best to the market, which is very

crucial for the local cattle industry.

Mr. Speaker, this year's slogan was Tradition Lives Here, a phrase that is both personified by the deep roots and history of the cattle industry, as well as the impact of the economic benefit it has on my community and our province as a whole. I thank all sellers and buyers for attending this milestone event and look forward to the 101st Show and Sale next year.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues please join me in congratulating the Pride of the Prairies Bull Show and Sale on 100 years of tradition. Thank you.

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

Program Encourages Student Involvement

Ms. Beck: — Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an innovative program in Regina that is helping students across the city. In fall 2017, Regina Catholic Schools established STRIVE, Student Trustee Representative Initiative for Voice and Engagement. This program was developed to encourage engaging and meaningful student involvement, and STRIVE aims to improve student voice, to inform division decision making, and improve student engagement and education and active student citizenship.

Members include an executive council consisting of school-selected students who are with us today, one senior and one junior trustee from each of the four high schools. These representatives gather once a month at the board office to plan initiatives and share student concerns and feedback with senior administration and the board. STRIVE trustees also attend and present at monthly Public School Board meetings.

And, Mr. Speaker, they've been busy. Over the past two years, STRIVE has formulated a constitution, established a mission statement and statement of beliefs. They have worked in support of the RCSD's [Regina Catholic School Division] Catholic Education Matters initiative, supported transition activities and documents for elementary school students transitioning to high schools, and have been champions in support of mental health initiatives.

This year the executive participated in linkage dialogues between the members of the Legislative Assembly and elected Regina Catholic school trustees. Mr. Speaker, members on this side were really welcomed and encouraged by that meeting. Mr. Speaker, I would invite all members to join me in thanking STRIVE for their hard work.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Lumsden-Morse.

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleague, the Minister for Rural and Remote Health, I would like to acknowledge that March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. This month serves as a good opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of early detection and a balanced, healthy lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, colorectal cancer is the most commonly diagnosed

form of cancer in this province. In any given year, more than 650 new cases are diagnosed in our province. When detected early, colorectal cancer can be successfully treated in 90 per cent of cases.

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency launched the screening program for colorectal cancer in 2009. This test takes less than five minutes to complete in the privacy of your own home and can detect growths long before symptoms appear. Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency asks that men and women between 50 and 74 years of age contact the agency if they have not received a testing kit within the past two years. Mr. Speaker, we cannot stress enough that screening and early detection helps save lives.

Our government is proud to continue funding the Cancer Agency to ensure that life-saving services like this screening program are available for Saskatchewan people. I now ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

Volunteers Honoured at Agricultural Convention

Hon. Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From March 1st to 2nd, along with my colleague, the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation, I had the honour of attending the Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions Annual Convention in Prince Albert.

The volunteer championship awards were held on the Sunday, recognizing the hard work of individuals like Linda Wright who was given an honorary life membership. Linda is a fantastic volunteer who has made a great impact in her community. For many years, she has served as a board member and president of her agriculture society.

Other award recipients were Linda Chenay and Linda Stevens who were recognized as Volunteers of the Year. Together these ladies have worked very hard to keep their agriculture society in their community going above and beyond to bring in new membership and life to their group.

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions Convention would not be possible without all the hard work of hundreds of volunteers and their passion for Saskatchewan agriculture. I now ask all members to please join me in congratulating the association on a successful convention and thank them for their service to our agriculture industry. Thank you.

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

Memorial Piano Donated to High School

Mr. Buckingham: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In this House we have heard many stories of Saskatchewan people's courage, heartbreak, and generosity, and I would like to share another one today.

In 2014 James Haughey, Sarah Wensley, and Kara Mitsuing were struck by a drunk driver in a stolen vehicle while on their way to track practice. Both James and Sarah did not survive the accident, and Kara sustained serious injuries. Mr. Speaker, J.P., as his friends knew him, loved music and started playing the piano at age six. He was a year away from completing the necessary requirements to teach music when he was so tragically killed.

A few weeks ago, to honour their son's memory, Marilou and Alex Haughey donated a baby grand piano that J.P. had always wanted to Bethlehem Catholic High School where he attended.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister for SGI [Saskatchewan Government Insurance] and I were in attendance for the presentation of this beautiful grand piano, at which there were about 1,000 students. The respect that those students showed for J.P. was unbelievable. You could hear a pin drop in the room, a display of respect. I hope those students will always remember J.P. when they see, hear, or are fortunate enough to play the baby grand. I ask all members to join me in recognizing Marilou and Alex Haughey and all those who donated to provide the piano and the lasting memories to Bethlehem Catholic School. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Melfort.

Saskatchewan's Top Baby Names for 2018

Mr. Goudy: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. eHealth Saskatchewan has released the top 20 most popular baby names in the province for 2018. Liam is top of the charts as the most popular name for baby boys for the past eight years in a row, and this last year was no exception. Eighty-four boys named in Saskatchewan this year were named Liam. The other top names for baby boys were Oliver, Benjamin, and Noah.

As for baby girls, Oliver was the most popular name for the second year in a row. Sixty-nine baby girls last year were named Olivia — oh my, that would be Olivia — with the next most popular baby names being Emma, Harper, and Sophia.

In 2018 some new names found their way on to the top 20 list for the first time. The names Ryker, Emmett, and Elijah all made their debut on the list for most popular baby names, while Ellie was the only new baby girl name to make the top 20 list.

In 2018, Mr. Speaker, 15,364 babies in Saskatchewan were welcomed into this world. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate all the parents who've added a special new addition into their family this year. And it's been said that the smallest feet make the biggest impressions on our hearts. And as a father of six, I would say amen to that. So for all of you young moms and dads out there who are considering adding another to this world, I would ask you to bring in the joy and do your part. Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Government's Fiscal Management and Potash Royalties

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nearly 20 years ago New

Democrats introduced a new framework for potash royalties in the province, and it was a framework designed to incentivize growth of the industry. It worked, but it's been nearly 20 years. And we hear call after call from experts that it's time for a review of those rates. The most recent of those calls came from the Johnson-Shoyama School of Public Policy, who said that between 40 and \$100 million are being lost from our provincial treasury because of our out-of-date royalty rate.

Mr. Speaker, my question for the Premier is this: will he be trying to balance the budget this time around once again by cuts, or is he actually interested in finding out more sources of revenue? Will he be willing to do a review and make sure that we're getting a fair deal for Saskatchewan resources?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Leader of the Opposition for the question. And I would just advise that in seven more sleeps the Leader of the Opposition, the entire opposition, and the people of the province are going to see the budget that is going to be introduced by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker, next Wednesday.

I would add, it is going to be a balanced budget, Mr. Speaker, as that is a commitment that this government made three years ago. And to the member from Athabasca's point, that's a commitment that we intend on keeping, like so many commitments that we have made to the people of the province over the course of the last dozen-or-so years.

Mr. Speaker, we will continue to build on the investments in this budget, Mr. Speaker, striking the right balance of fiscal probity, fiscal sustainability in our province, and investment, Mr. Speaker — investment in healthcare infrastructure, investment in the services that are provided in our healthcare facilities across this province like the newly opened Saskatchewan Hospital in North Battleford, which we had the honour to open and replace that 100-year-old facility, just last week, Mr. Speaker.

You're going to see us build on a legacy, Mr. Speaker, of investment in schools: 42 schools across the province, and teachers and support staff directly into the classrooms in our educational institutions, Mr. Speaker, across the province, giving that next generation every opportunity to be successful right here in the province of Saskatchewan.

[14:00]

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier spoke of commitments. Now there was a commitment made in 2015 to do a review of our potash royalty resource structure. And yet that commitment seems to have flown out the window. Mr. Speaker, they broke that promise. They later broke the trust of Saskatchewan people when they cut funding to our classrooms at a time of crisis in education, when they cut hearing aid programs for children, when they eliminated the rental housing supplement, leaving people that are struggling to pay their rent without any support.

Mr. Speaker, is the Premier even curious? Does he even want to

know if we're getting a fair deal? Will he keep that commitment that was made in 2015? Will he do a review? Or is he happy to leave Saskatchewan people without services and without a fair deal?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, as I said, we're going to introduce a budget that is not only going to be balanced, it's going to strike the right balance on behalf of the people of the province that we represent, Mr. Speaker. And it's going to build on the investments that we've had. It's going to build on the commitments that we have made, Mr. Speaker, the commitments I would contrast with what has happened under the members opposite during the 16 years they had an opportunity to govern on behalf of the people of this province.

It's through those years, Mr. Speaker, where we saw the reduction of over 170 physicians in this province, the reduction of 170 physicians, the closure of 52 facilities across the province, Mr. Speaker. Truly, truly off balance with the priorities of people across the province of Saskatchewan, priorities that we just heard from at the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Mr. Speaker.

You contrast that with the investment, Mr. Speaker, that involves expanding our College of Medicine, allowing opportunity to train more people from this province to serve in our communities, Mr. Speaker, investments resulting in over 900 physicians operating in our communities right across Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. That's over a 50 per cent increase in medical professionals, in physicians operating and working with the people and families and communities right across this province, Mr. Speaker. That's an example of a commitment, a focused commitment and investment by the members on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Speaking of focus, it would be great if the Premier could focus on the question that was asked, which was will he commit, as promised in 2015, to a review of our potash royalties? Or does he not care whether Saskatchewan is getting a fair deal for our non-renewable resources.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Energy and Resources.

Hon. Ms. Eyre: — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition called former Premier Devine's statements about Nutrien's head office, "a bit rich," coming from the guy who sold off PotashCorp and cautioned against "post-privatization promises." Well we'll say that statement's a bit rich coming from a guy whose party nationalized the industry, forced K+S out of the province. The money that he wants to redistribute was created as a result of post-privatization, Mr. Speaker.

The potash royalty and production tax system in this province has attracted over \$20 billion in expansions and new construction in the last 12 years. Over \$600 million in government revenues were collected last year alone. There was a royalty review that was postponed in 2015 which remains on hold as we continue to

watch and assess the state of the sector and the 5,400 direct jobs, and many more direct jobs, Mr. Speaker, in Saskatchewan. We continue to work collaboratively with all the players in the sector to defend their interests, and we are always looking at ways that our revenue systems could be made fairer and more transparent to maintain that proper balance, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

National Pharmacare Program

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No answer. No surprise there, but no interest in making sure we get a fair deal for Saskatchewan resources.

[Interjections]

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are joined today by Dr. Sally Mahood, Dr. Rejina Kamrul, Dr. Solveig Nilson, and Dr. Kieran Conway. These physicians practise here in the province. And they have the regular experience of hearing from patients, when they give them a prescription, hearing back from those patients, I'd be happy to follow that prescription but I can't afford to pay for it.

Mr. Speaker, right now the federal government is looking at introducing pharmacare. But what the details are in that pharmacare plan are, we don't yet know and we still have a chance to influence, Mr. Speaker.

So my question for the Premier is, will he join us in calling on the federal government to introduce universal, first-dollar coverage of an evidence-based formulary so that every Saskatchewan patient can afford the medications they need to stay healthy?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've said many times in this Assembly — so has the Premier outside to the media, in public, Mr. Speaker — that we absolutely support the concept of a national pharmacare program. But, as I've also said, the devil's in the details. As the Leader of the Opposition has said, we don't know what the details are yet.

The Minister of Rural and Remote Health and myself have had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Eric Hoskins who's heading up the task force to do the report on national pharmacare, Mr. Speaker. I think it's important that we let them follow through with their work. They released an interim report, frankly, Mr. Speaker, that didn't tell us anything. We're going to wait for the final report, and we'll evaluate it at that time.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A universal pharmacare program in Canada would save dollars, would save lives — \$300 million right here in Saskatchewan. That's just in the costs of drugs, not to mention the millions and millions downstream because people stay healthy and don't need as much expensive care because they took the medications in the first place. Right

here in Saskatchewan today, even with our seniors' drug plan, seniors are paying, on average, hundreds of dollars per month for prescriptions and are often having to choose not to fill prescriptions because of the cost.

So my question for the Premier today is, now we know that the devil is in the details. The details matter. What does he say to Dr. Mahood, Dr. Kamrul, Dr. Conway, Dr. Nilson? What does he say to say to their patients about why the Premier and the minister won't stand up and advocate for real pharmacare, for a universal publicly funded first-dollar program that funds an evidence-based formulary and makes sure that every Canadian patient, every Saskatchewan patient, can afford the medications they need to stay healthy.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, I would say this. Last fall the NDP [New Democratic Party] criticized us for not fully endorsing a liberal federal plan for pharmacare that we had never seen the report. Now, Mr. Speaker, they haven't seen the report, but they're criticizing it that it's not good enough. Mr. Speaker, why would we not wait until the report comes out?

All the provinces have been fully engaged with the federal government. We've been fully engaged with the federal government on this, Mr. Speaker. As I said, I've had the opportunity, along with my colleague, to meet with Eric Hoskins. Our officials are in communication, Mr. Speaker. There are a percentage of people, Mr. Speaker, that aren't covered currently. We think it's important that we have a plan to cover them. Let's see what the federal government comes up with, Mr. Speaker.

The NDP should look at this with an open mind. This shouldn't be about ideology. This should be about looking after the good people of Saskatchewan.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't need to see the report to know what a good pharmacare program would look like. We've done our homework. The evidence is out there of how much universal pharmacare would save us, of how many lives it would help to save as well. We know that it would make a difference. Why does this government not do its homework as well? Why is it not willing to stand up and advocate for the kind of program that will serve the needs of Saskatchewan patients?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, we've said we support the notion of a national pharmacare program, but we need to know what it's going to look like. We're not going to fully endorse something that we don't know what it looks like. The federal government's done a great deal of work on this. Let's have an opportunity to have a look at it.

Mr. Speaker, we already have amongst the most robust, probably the best pharmacare program in the country, Mr. Speaker. Let's not forget this: children are covered. Seniors are covered. Our low-income people are covered. And, Mr. Speaker, nobody in this province will pay more than 3.4 per cent of their income on pharmacy, Mr. Speaker.

The members opposite should realize this. Again, they should get off the ideology and they should worry about what's best for the citizens of Saskatchewan.

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

Deficiencies in Bypass Project

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, last fall we repeatedly asked this government what the 1,100 minor deficiencies identified in the Regina bypass project were. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, the minister read a whole binder's worth of talking points, but she never answered the question. So we wrote written questions, and those finally came back two days ago. The strange thing is, they don't quite line up with internal government emails and only list the deficiencies that hadn't been resolved, which is not what we asked.

So let's try again. Will the minister unequivocally table the full list of deficiencies identified in the ministry emails?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Ms. Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member opposite for the question. Yes, she did ask this question during the last session, and they did put a written question in. And we answered that question fully with the deficiencies that we have right now.

Mr. Speaker, some of those deficiencies are at Chuka Creek. It's no vegetation in place. There's some grading and some topsoil that needs to be replaced at the highway intersection of Gregory Avenue and Highway 48. There's a top coat of paint that needs to be changed because the colour doesn't quite match with the rest of the paint. So that's something that we need to replace.

Mr. Speaker, we have some seeding on some side slopes that need to be taken care of in several different locations. Some of those locations are the south side of some medians on the centre roundabout. Some are on the north side. Some grass needs to be put in in those places.

Mr. Speaker, these are the type of deficiencies that we have, and if she has a follow-up question I'd be happy to list more.

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

Ms. Sproule: — The minister knows full well that we asked for the list, the complete list of deficiencies, not the ones that hadn't been resolved yet.

Now according to an email from Dave Stearns, the executive director of the construction branch and lead spokesperson on the Regina bypass project, and I'll quote, "The combined list from Regina bypass partners, the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure includes 1,100 minor deficiencies."

So where is the list senior ministry officials are referring to? And if you have nothing to hide, will you table it today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Ms. Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And once again I

thank the member opposite for the question. I think one thing that's really important to note here is that with these deficiencies, all of these are noted as the project is taking place. And it's also important to notice that a highway doesn't open completely until the deficiencies are taken care of. So the stuff that she's referring to in this 1,100 list that she has or that she thinks is out there, all of that stuff has been taken care of.

These are the actual deficiencies that we have left right now, and that project is 90 per cent complete, on budget, on time. It's going to bring efficiency and safety to the province of Saskatchewan and the people that live here. So this is something I'm very proud of. And be assured, all deficiencies are being taken care of, and the ones that are outstanding is the list she's been given. Thank you.

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

Ms. Sproule: — I take that as a no, Mr. Speaker, she will not provide that list. Here's the other thing, Mr. Speaker. The written questions say there were no major deficiencies found. None. Now this doesn't line up with the government emails, which clearly reference a number of major issues.

The too-small Balgonie roundabouts aren't on here anywhere, despite the havoc it created for that community. And nor was the issue referenced in the House by the former Highways minister in the spring, and I quote:

Yes, there were some major ones. I'll give you an example. On the Wascana Creek, they hit an aquifer, Mr. Speaker. I don't know what the cost of that was for us to fix because we don't care . . .

Mr. Speaker, those were his actual words. I can't make this up. According to the government, none of this happened now? Much like the cost structure and accountability of the project — clear as mud.

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — A little order, please. I recognize the member.

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister shine a very bright light and actually table the actual lists today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Ms. Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And once again I thank the member opposite for the question. As things are being built, things aren't completely done. We come across things that need to be repaired, as she referred to the minister that was answering for me that day. That had been taken care of, so it's not a deficiency anymore.

And do you know what else isn't a deficiency? The safety that this project brings. The member opposite from Rosemont stood in his place day after day after day demanding safety, demanding to get heavy truck traffic off of Dewdney. This project is exactly what takes care of all of that stuff. And we are not deficient. This project will bring safety to the forefront, and that's what's most important. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[14:15]

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

Investigation of Circumstances in Pinehouse Village

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After Pinehouse governance questions were raised in a letter to the Premier, the then Government Relations minister promised in October of 2016 to “schedule a meeting with the village council at the earliest opportunity to assist them in complying with the provisions of the local authority FOI Act.” And in her letter she also indicated that the concerns and recommendations raised “will be responded to by the Ministry of Justice.” Nothing further was heard on this matter for the remainder of the minister's tenure. In fact, nothing was heard until two years later when the current Minister of Government Relations announced that the province would finally investigate.

So what was done in response to those concerns? Did the Finance minister, then the minister of Government Relations, meet with the village council in her official capacity as promised, and did she assist them in complying with the provisions of the law as she committed to do?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Just from the very beginning, I will have to correct the member opposite. I was not the minister of Government Relations when it was decided to do an investigation with the village of Pinehouse. We'll allow that to take place and there will be a report in due course.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Well, Mr. Speaker, maybe then we should ask the current Minister of Government Relations, who has had own photo ops with the village council. Has he “assisted them in complying” with the law as his predecessor promised two years ago?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, as the previous minister has indicated, it was the current minister that was in place, Mr. Speaker, with respect to when the investigation was decided to move forward. Mr. Speaker, this is the responsibilities of whoever is in the minister of Government Relations, as ministers of the Crown have a number of responsibilities, and this is one of those responsibilities, Mr. Speaker.

And again what we see here, Mr. Speaker, is quite frankly doing politics differently in the House of this Assembly, our Legislative Assembly, Mr. Speaker. We see the members opposite, Mr. Speaker, in particular that member, driving by members on this side in an attempt to smear in some way the honourable member, Mr. Speaker, and the honourable way in which members on this side of the House continue to conduct themselves on behalf of the people that put us here.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, we have also requested Ministry

of Justice correspondence on this matter, but the ministry refused to release any records at all. Did the Minister of Justice respond to the concerns raised in the July 2016 letter as the then-minister of Government Relations said they would? And if he did, can he share with this Assembly about any results of his efforts to get the village to comply with the law?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The communications that the member opposite is referring to would be privileged communications, solicitor-client privilege. She would be well aware of that. She's practised law in this province for a number of years and should be fully aware of how information is provided by way of legal opinions. I haven't seen the legal opinions. These opinions are provided across government for a variety of different issues.

Mr. Speaker, there was issues arose at the village of Pinehouse. The minister, who is still a minister today, acted on those, conducted an investigation. There's a review under way and, Mr. Speaker, that's how things are supposed to be done. When there's a complaint comes forward, the ministry or whatever ministry that's affected or involved in it is supposed to conduct an investigation, conduct a review, and act on those concerns. And, Mr. Speaker, there's time constraints to go through and they will continue to do that and, Mr. Speaker, I have confidence that that minister will provide a good response.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, the July 2016 letter from 34 concerned citizens outlined a very simple fix to the problems that have plagued the efforts to get to the bottom of irregularities at Pinehouse village over the past several years: the lack of teeth in the local authority FOI [freedom of information] Act that denies the commissioner the power to order documents to be made public.

We called for these changes last May. Now once again we are calling to the minister. Will he commit to this simple and necessary fix to ensure the openness, the transparency, and the accountability that Saskatchewan people expect?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, we respect the concerns that were raised by the citizens. We receive those. We act on them. We don't instantly go out and make a legislative change or go out and do a knee-jerk reaction. We act appropriately. We act thoroughly. We will conduct an investigation into those matters. That investigation is under way. If the investigation leads to something where it would warrant a change to legislation at some point in time, we would certainly do that, whether it be to *The Municipalities Act*, whether it be to LAFOIP [*The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*], or some other piece of legislation.

But, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite should just wait until that happens. The concerns are taken seriously. The minister acted on this. The minister was very careful, very appropriate in his response and will make sure that it takes its course. And, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite, I would just urge them to be

comfortable and to support that process as it takes place and not do anything that's going to demean or detract or do something that will put that process . . . [inaudible]. We don't interfere in those things, Mr. Speaker. Those things are conducted by officials. And, Mr. Speaker, our intention is to let that happen.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, I think the minister has confused his lines on the GTH in his response to this question. This government in 2007 promised to be the most open and accountable and transparent government in the history of the universe, Mr. Speaker. All we're saying is that the commissioner responsible for freedom of information has identified a flaw in the legislation, and we would just look for a serious, responsible answer from the Minister of Justice as to what his intentions are with respect to those concerns from our commissioner.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, the members opposite may choose to conduct themselves in that fashion where they act on a knee-jerk, where they don't do a careful analysis, where they don't do a review, where they don't sit down and look at what has taken place, where they don't let an independent and careful review come to its conclusion, where they don't look at the results of that review and see what the recommendations of that, where they don't follow careful processes and make good, sound decisions, Mr. Speaker.

The members opposite would rather have a quick political heyday rather than do things the proper way. And, Mr. Speaker, we're not like that. We're going to do things properly on this side of the House.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Lawrence: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the answer to question no. 46.

The Speaker: — Tabled, 46. I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Lawrence: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to order the answer to question no. 47.

The Speaker: — Ordered, question 47.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

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 Regina Douglas Park.

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise in the House today and enter into the debate around Bill No. 149, *The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act*, Mr. Speaker. I've had the opportunity to speak to this bill already and I am a critic for this bill, so I'm not going to be long in my remarks today. I do know that there are some stakeholders out there that are still interested in consulting on this bill. So I'd ask that they provide me with whatever information they have as soon as possible, as I don't know when the committee will be scheduled for.

But I am looking forward to the opportunity to ask questions of the officials about this legislation at committee, in particular around what practical changes this will actually mean for rural municipalities and what sort of implications this will have, as well as what sort of work the Minister of Justice has done lately in terms of advocating with the federal government to ensure that we have our full RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] complement as we should in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. And when we talk about this legislation we should also ensure that we're not like the members opposite are doing — patting themselves on the back for solving rural crime by passing a few pieces of legislation — but instead talking about the real root causes of crime and the concerns that flow out of that.

Like I said, last time I spoke about this legislation, what we didn't see from this government is an opioid strategy or a crystal meth strategy, Mr. Speaker. And we know that crystal meth is a huge problem in this province and one of the larger causes of why we're seeing the crime that we do see in this province. And if we don't address the root causes of crime, like addiction, these pieces of legislation won't be as effective as they could be.

So to allow this bill to move on to committee so I can have the opportunity to spend some good time with the good folks at the Ministry of Justice, I will at this point allow this bill to move forward.

The Speaker: — It has been moved that Bill No. 149 be now read a second time. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Second reading of this bill.

The Speaker: — To which committee shall this bill be . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . I'm having a difficult time hearing absolutely anything. So let's . . . I think I've got the spot for the House Leader. I recognize the House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — I designate that Bill No. 149, *The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act, 2018* be committed to the

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

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

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.]

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. 150, *The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act*. Now, Mr. Speaker, similar to the last bill that we had discussed, I've already had the distinct pleasure of speaking to this piece of legislation and putting my concerns on the record that exist based on the consultation that I've done and the stakeholders that I've spoken to, in particular those within the criminal bar, Mr. Speaker.

There are a lot of concerns about why this legislation is being amended and the impacts that this will have on, what I think is fair to say, a vulnerable sector in our community, Mr. Speaker, and what sort of level of consultation has occurred prior to this. So similar to the last bill — so I have the opportunity to have what is an even more distinct pleasure than speaking to this bill, which is spending some time with the good folks, the brilliant lawyers at the Ministry of Justice — I will now allow this bill to move on to its next stage.

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the minister that Bill No. 150 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — Second reading of this bill.

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

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — I designate that Bill No. 150, *The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act, 2018* be committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

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

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 Regina

Elphinstone-Centre.

[14:30]

Mr. McCall: — Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. Thanks for the great introduction, and it's certainly good to take my place in this Assembly and join the debate that is raging on around Bill No. 163, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act*.

Mr. Speaker, far be it from me to say, you know, to use this as some kind of launching point for lawyer jokes. I'll refrain from that. I'll not get into things like two lawyers, three opinions, or anything like that. But certainly, Mr. Speaker, on the advice of counsel, I'm going to give you a bit of a quick course on this one and then, you know, take my place. But certainly we're always interested to see legislation come forward drafted by lawyers, on the advice of lawyers, for the regulation of the legal profession — so for lawyers, by lawyers, to lawyers; a lot of lawyers coming and going.

But in all seriousness, Mr. Speaker, the legal services task team that was appointed not too long ago, working in close conjunction with the Law Society and benchers throughout the province, the work that was done here to bring forward the changes recommended by the task team . . . Again the task team seems to be a high-calibre group of men and women, Mr. Speaker, in terms of those lawyers. But they had brought forward recommendations that now are translated at least in part in this legislation, aimed at increasing access to justice by providing innovative new ways to access legal services.

Again, Mr. Speaker, we like the sounds of that. We'll be looking closely to see that that is borne out in the actual improvement of access to legal services. We know that there are problems out there in legal aid land in terms of the critical function that that performs in trying to eliminate the financial barriers that are there in terms of folks accessing legal services. So we'll be looking to see how this impacts that.

We'll be looking at how this particular bill has a number of amendments that authorize the Law Society to issue limited licences on a case-by-case basis to non-lawyers. You know, that's certainly a significant move, Mr. Speaker. And I know that, you know, professional societies generally are quite jealous and guard jealously their credentials; that this is brought forward as a possible change, we'll be interested to hear in committee how that will be applied. What sort of circumstances are foreseen in that measure being utilized? And of course how that then in turn impacts Law Society rules. And also again that kind of quality control, that kind of quality assurance that you need to have there in terms of people that are utilizing the services, to balance that, Mr. Speaker. So access and quality often is not very much something that you have to navigate. You have to pay attention to the balancing of the two. And we'll be interested to see how that will be dealt with and what the minister has to say about that in committee.

Further, the authority for government to make regulations setting licence requirements for new alternative legal service providers, again there's a whole battery of oversight that comes with those particular measures, Mr. Speaker. We'll be interested to see how that sorts out.

There are some other sort of structural changes that are being made, certainly the ones that relate to the practices and administration of the Law Society itself. The minister in his second reading speech of December 4th, 2018 references the several provisions respecting committee processes that will be moved from the Act to Law Society rules. Again, Mr. Speaker, there is ease of administration that comes with that, but you've got to make sure that you're not sacrificing appropriate oversight for that ease of instrumentality. So we'll be looking to see how that works out.

A new option in the legislation to appoint benchers wherein the minimum number of benchers will be reduced from 17 to 12. Again, Mr. Speaker, how that works itself out into appropriate representation from across the province, and in terms of who constitutes a bencher, and how that is then worked out within the numbers on this committee that we're talking about here — we'll be interested to see how that shakes out.

And then lastly, Mr. Speaker, in terms of . . . Again the minister identifies it as a first step or a continuing step in a multi-year process of developing requirements for non-lawyer members, educating the public about new ways to access legal services. You know, what sort of bolstering of the paralegal system might take place, and in terms of how again that impacts questions of access to justice and affordability? And again how they're balanced off against quality.

So, Mr. Speaker, all these things, most interesting. I'm sure my legal . . . legally credentialed colleagues, I should say, how they will be weighing in on this one. It could be a split decision. We'll see. But I know that I'll be looking to their insight and input to this particular piece of legislation, and as ever be looking very much forward to the kind of detailed examination that is on offer at committee and moving clause by clause through the legislation.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I'd move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 163, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2018*. This opposition member rests.

The Speaker: — The member for Regina Elphinstone-Centre has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 163. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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 Regina Lakeview.

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and it is indeed my pleasure to rise this afternoon and enter into debate on Bill No. 164, the statute amendments Act, 2018.

Mr. Speaker, this Act proposes changes to 47 different Acts, Acts as varied as *The Agricultural Implements Act, The Funeral and*

Cremation Services Act, The Planning and Development Act, The Registered Teachers Act, The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation Act, The Tax Enforcement Act, The White Cane Act, The Power Corporation Act.

Mr. Speaker, you might ask what all of these pieces of legislation have in common, and I certainly did when I looked at that list, Mr. Speaker. It would seem that these are all Acts that require a bit of housekeeping. And that certainly is what the minister indicated when he introduced this bill back in December of last year. The minister noted that there were general housekeeping changes to pieces of the legislation to modernize provisions.

I think I've expressed before, Mr. Speaker, that sometimes we get a little nervous when we hear that things are being streamlined and modernized. Sometimes there are other surprises in there when we look deeper at those bills. But it would appear on surface here that that is the case, that there is some standard upgrading of language. For example, there is still references to "departments." I know my colleague from Saskatoon Centre has given a bit of a history lesson previously about that shift from the term "departments" to "ministries." But here we are in 2019. That is the term that is being used currently by government, so it is reasonably important that that be updated in all of these 47 Acts.

One of the other changes that would . . . These changes would, as the minister noted, replace a number of references to "department" and assist readers who undertake electronic searches. So that makes sense, Mr. Speaker, that we have the correct terminology so that someone searching, searching for answers perhaps, searching for, as we often do, Mr. Speaker, searching for particular references to Acts would have . . . that the proper terminology would be used so that they might find what they are looking for.

Beyond that, Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleague, perhaps further of my colleagues and certainly the critic, will have further questions, will provide further oversight, and may wish to engage the minister and his officials further in committee. But with that I will move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 164.

The Speaker: — The member for Regina Lakeview 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 for Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I'm pleased to rise today to speak to this bill, *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act*. And the particular, the main features of this bill certainly are to expand presumptive coverage for Saskatchewan firefighters to include prostate cancer, skin

cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, and multiple myeloma.

And, Mr. Speaker, I know that . . . I want to give a shout-out to the Saskatchewan firefighters who organized and lobbied hard for these very important changes to *The Workers' Compensation Act*. I also want to give a shout-out to my colleague from Saskatoon Riversdale who has been a passionate advocate for these changes and for further protections for people in the first responder positions and the firefighters who put their lives on the line, Mr. Speaker, to ensure that we're safe.

And, Mr. Speaker, as April approaches I know many of us will be thinking back to a year ago when the tragic accident . . . the Humboldt Broncos bus crash. And the role of the first responders in that tragedy I think really highlighted for us how they have been putting themselves on the line. And just this week, Mr. Speaker, we've heard news of high rates of suicide for first responders. And again it just shows how dangerous that work is, how much they need every possible support that we can give them because they are out there on the front lines and they are out there putting their lives at risk.

And not just, you know, in the immediate emergency, Mr. Speaker, but when you think about PTSD [post-traumatic stress disorder] and other kinds of mental health issues that come out of this kind of work, this is a life-long struggle that many of these first responders are dealing with. And it just is beyond me to even imagine the kind the horrors that they have to deal with during their actual work, but also when they get home to their families and loved ones. And so these changes are incredibly important. I think it's just part of our reflection of the importance of these positions and the types of illnesses that workers can get when they're on the job, and so I think those kinds of changes are very important.

The second part of the bill is in relation to the composition of the Workers' Compensation Board, and apparently the minister has done consultations on this with a number of stakeholders, and they're going to expand the board to seven members, with two full-time members and then four part-time members. Mr. Speaker, previously of course the board was made up of five members, but I assume the consultations led the government to making this decision to expand it.

And he does say it will allow them to hear appeals in a more timely manner. And, Mr. Speaker, I think anyone who sits and waits for six months for a coroner's report or many months for a reference on carbon tax in Saskatchewan, like those waiting periods are long and it really does keep people in the lurch. So if we can do appeals more quickly, I think that that makes sense, Mr. Speaker.

He has another change which moves the exemption from *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. We were talking about that in question period, Mr. Speaker, in terms of local governments and whether exempting . . . In this case it's an exemption for workers to access their own claim file even though there is protected information. So again, in the interests of transparency and accountability, I think that's a good move. I think that's an important move and that this would be an appropriate change in the legislation.

Barring that, Mr. Speaker, and whatever discussions we're able to have with the minister in a conversation in committee, I don't have any further comments on this bill. And therefore I'll move to adjourn the debate on Bill No. 165, *The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2018*.

[14:45]

The Speaker: — The member for Saskatoon Nutana has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 165. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Once my colleagues explained to me that this was not in fact the “edumacation” Act and that it was in fact *The Education Amendment Act*, Bill No. 157, 2018, my critique really took off from there, Mr. Speaker. But good to join debate this afternoon, pick up where my colleagues have left off in terms of the discussion around Bill No. 157, *The Education Amendment Act, 2018, Loi modificative sur l'éducation*. Certainly, Mr. Speaker, they do their best with me. They “edumacate” me as best they can, some more than others.

But this particular legislation . . . And again, you think about the backdrop of what's going on say, you know, not too far away from here in terms of court proceedings on some pretty fundamental questions of our education system, the history of that system, how that interacts with our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, how that interacts with the Constitution, Mr. Speaker. When you get to this actual piece of legislation, it's kind of a . . . I wouldn't say letdown. I wouldn't be, you know, uncharitable like that. But certainly not as momentous as the questions that are being adjudicated and argued not very far from here today in courts of law, around the nature of our very education system.

So to the bill itself, Mr. Speaker. It corrects and changes terminology in both the English and French versions of the Act. It exempts the city of Lloydminster from paying the proceeds of the school tax received to the government — as had been taken over by different iterations of this Sask Party government, Mr. Speaker — and rather the city of Lloydminster will be paying their particular boards of education directly.

It changes the clause on the acquisition of personal property by a board of education or the conseil scolaire to clarify that “. . . boards of education and the conseil scolaire have the authority to manage their own personal property.” And it changes the clause on the disposal of real and personal property by a board of education or a conseil scolaire.

Again, Mr. Speaker, anything that deals with our education system, education being so critical to the kind of world we want, to, you know, help our children realize their potential and help us all in that realization, Mr. Speaker. The broader community, the way that that is impacted by education. It's been said that education is the great leveller, so any time we see this government making a move on the education system generally, we're watching it very closely. And certainly we've got a number of people in our pockets that have long-standing and proud connection to the education system in this province.

So, Mr. Speaker, I know that we'll be looking to their advice on this particular piece of legislation for what it does and does not do. And is this a case of housecleaning while there's a debate outside that's raging, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the broader issues of properly resourcing the system, making certain that it meets the 21st century needs of our students and our communities, Mr. Speaker? And not the least of which is the fact that we've got a fundamental question as to the nature of our education system being adjudicated, you know, mere kilometres away from here, Mr. Speaker, in terms of court proceedings.

So again this would seem to be, on the face of it, helpful legislation, you know, dealing with things like terminology and proper delineation of responsibility as regards property and who the city of Lloydminster should be paying their property tax to, Mr. Speaker. But it does take place against that bigger backdrop of all these issues that we see playing out. And we can't help but wonder if those issues wouldn't be better addressed by changes to *The Education Act*. Although, you know, sometimes the worst thing about responses on the part of this government is, you know, what's in the response. You know, the only thing worse than being ignored by this government is sometimes, you know, waking up on their radar.

So, Mr. Speaker, again we'll be looking at this particular piece of legislation very closely and noting how it, you know, is brought to this Legislative Assembly against this bigger backdrop of some very important issues for the well-being of this province, for the treatment of students, for the retention of teachers in our system. Be interesting to see how this all comes together.

But for that being said, Mr. Speaker, I would move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 157, *The Education Amendment Act, 2018*.

The Speaker: — The member for Regina Elphinstone-Centre 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 Nutana.

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And as I

was thinking about this, getting up in this debate, I was thinking about being a youth and how fortunate I was as a young kid to have free run of the farm. Of course when I was 16 I got my driver's licence and was able to go to town, hang out. And I think by many, many indicators, I was fortunate and didn't end up on the wrong side of the law in any significant way.

The other thing I'm thinking about as I get up to speak to this is, thank God my kids got through it too. They are in their 20s now, so we won't ever be in youth court with either of my kids. And so it's . . . But I think about, why? Why is that, Mr. Speaker? Why was I so fortunate to be able to avoid these kinds of unfortunate circumstances?

And I think we know the story. When many kids come in conflict with youth it's stemming from other parts of their life that have caused them to come into conflict with the law. And we've talked about it a lot in the Assembly over this last session, you know, when it comes to rural crime. And we look at the Colten Boushie . . . trial of Gerald Stanley who killed Colten Boushie. And you know, what were the real circumstances leading up to that situation?

And, Mr. Speaker, I know it happened on our farm too where things were stolen. And back in those days, of course, there were more farms around; there were more people around. And as rural people get more and more isolated, and I think some of the trials and tribulations of many young people in crystal meth and drug addictions are pushing them towards crime, it's a recipe for disaster, Mr. Speaker. And the Gerald Stanley-Colten Boushie situation I think is a good reflection of that collision course that we're on.

So we look at something like a youth justice administration Act. And I think back to when I was . . . early when I got elected, this government decided to shut down Yarrow which was a group home for children in conflict with the law. And I think for many of those kids, it was a home that they never really ever had in their own situation. I was there. It was comfortable. There was a kitchen; you could smell muffins baking. There was, you know, sports for them to do. There was a TV and they had their own room. And these kids were cared for by the workers there in a way that was not a punitive way. It was a caring, nurturing way, and from what I understand, the results that that group home were able to provide were fairly significant and changed those kids' lives.

So it was really disappointing when the minister decided that it was time to close that home and put those kids into the facility in my riding, Kilburn Hall, Mr. Speaker. And I was there for a couple of the public meetings. There was a lot of concerns raised, and the minister's staff tried their best to answer the questions. But I don't think the minister fully thought through the implications of what was happening here.

I saw the cells where these kids who had come in conflict with the law were going to be placed. Their beds were cement pads that they would throw a mat on top of. These were cells, Mr. Speaker. So for a kid to go from a group home to basically a jail, Mr. Speaker, I think would have had a very negative impact on the rehabilitation of those kids and their chance to maybe learn and understand enough about themselves to be able to make better decisions in the future, Mr. Speaker. And as we know,

punitive treatment is only one goal of sentencing for adults, and when you think about youth, it's even more important to look at rehabilitation and, you know, repentance for past transgressions.

This bill, there are a number of questions, and I know that they'll have to be answered in the committee process, Mr. Speaker, where we can actually ask direct questions to the minister and his officials. There are a lot of concerns in this bill about the amount of power that's being given, particularly in the seclusion section and the searches section.

So as you know, Mr. Speaker, seclusion has been in the news quite a bit as of late, and even schools using it as a tool of control and, slash, punishment. And, Mr. Speaker, that's been proven to be very, very detrimental and non-productive. It's certainly, when you have short staffing, it's one way of dealing with an immediate issue, but I think the bigger problem, of course, is the level of staffing.

And so the minister himself, when he introduced this new bill, talked about:

Where the young person has made a complaint respecting the administration of the facility, . . . [they're] placed in a secluded room . . .

So if you have a complaint about the facility where you're incarcerated, you go to seclusion. Like, Mr. Speaker, that doesn't make any sense at all, and I don't know how this could be justified.

So it will be very, very interesting to see what our critic has to say in response to . . . or what the minister's going to have to say in response to questions from our critic on this particular area. This whole section of the bill — I think it's part 5 of the bill — talks about, is all about seclusion. And so I think we're going to have to take a very careful look at this, make sure we understand the hard evidence, the empirical evidence that suggests that seclusion for young people is appropriate and when. And I think that's something we really need to take a look at.

Also part 4 of the bill is a . . . This is an entirely new bill, by the way, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's replacing the existing bill that was enacted, I think 2003 perhaps or before. And of course, as often, this bill has been back in this House in 2012. It was here in 2014. It was here in 2016. You know, I remember the Minister of Justice talking today about not being knee-jerk. Well you know, let's bring the bill back every couple of years, maybe fix one thing here and one thing there, and then maybe six years later we'll actually get around to redrafting the bill. So he's definitely not knee-jerk in this context for sure, because apparently these changes have only come to this government now.

So part 4 is around searches, and as I say this is a very new portion of the bill. It didn't exist . . . In fact, the first bill only had basically 14 sections back in 2003, and now we've got a long, extensive bill that's coming forward. So we will have a number of questions about the seclusion provisions. The searching provisions — bodily, substances, urinalysis, contraband, searches of youth workers in a custody facility, searches of visitors, searches of vehicles — these are all very, very detailed in the new part 4. Strip searches, when will they be allowed to do them? And again, these are young people, Mr. Speaker, so this is

important stuff and we have to make sure we get it right.

At this point though, I won't have any more comments to add to the bill, and so I'll move that we adjourn debate on Bill No. 158, *The Youth Justice Administration Act, 2018*.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member from Saskatoon Nutana has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 158, *The Youth Justice Administration Act, 2018*. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

[15:00]

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's a pleasure to enter into debate on Bill No. 159, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act, 1988*. And it's one that's, I think, a very important one. It's one that we get right. And as the minister alluded to in his own remarks, that this is a quick start because of anticipation of things that will be happening in Europe that come into effect on January 1st, 2020. And I'm not talking about Brexit or what's happening in Great Britain today and what they're planning to do on March 29th. I'm talking about investments, that type of thing. But we're watching that. I shouldn't go down that road. We could probably have a long debate on that, but that's just something that we're all watching.

But what's happening in Europe and their plans around benchmarking, and that comes into effect on January 1, 2020. And these are all very important pieces of rules and regulations that many people in Saskatchewan are clearly watching, or should be watching because of their own personal investments. And of course in many ways we have a worldwide market and we need to make sure that we have some sort of universal approach to how we can judge the performance of our investments. And so a big part of this really talks about benchmarking. And I'll take a minute and read into the record again for the folks at home because as I said, this is a very important piece of legislation. And he talks about:

... the first set of changes relate to the benchmark regulation. [And he says] Benchmarks are standards used to measure the performance of securities or derivatives. If benchmarks are not based on reliable information or are otherwise manipulated by administrators, their use can lead to significant negative financial consequences for investors.

So what's happening is they're trying to standardize the practice of benchmarks by which you judge the performance of your investment. And they're setting standards to do that in Europe and now they're doing this to follow that in Canada. And this all

comes together as a way to protect people. And this is very, very important because we see and we hear, we hear in the news, stories of people who've lost their lifetime investments. These are things they've set aside to retire on or they've decided that would be the way that they add value to the marketplace and they, for a variety of reasons that should have been caught or that should have been protected from, they've made investments they thought were solid and ended up not being solid. And so this is a good idea that we have this but as I said, the minister did talk about that this . . . saying a new regulatory system and then we'll be replacing the new legislation with a new, uniform securities legislation but that will come later, I understand. So we'll be watching for that as this part gets put into place.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is technical and I don't want to be pretending to be an investment adviser here, especially on air. So I don't want to give anybody any inaccurate information but I would say, stay tuned for this and be talking to the people at the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan, the FCAA. I'm familiar with some of the folks there. They're very good, solid people, and they'll be making sure people do have the best advice they have. So people who do come into our office and have concerns about investments or their pensions or whatever, this is a good place to go to, the FCAA, the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan, a very important part of our public service.

So with that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am pleased to move adjournment now of Bill No. 159, *An Act to amend The Securities Act, 1988*. Thank you.

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

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's an honour to stand here today and add my remarks with regards to adjourned debates for Bill No. 160, *The Trespass to Property Amendment Act*. Mr. Deputy Speaker, this particular piece of legislation has been in the media quite a bit. There's been a lot of discussion with regards to the changes with this legislation and there was some lengthy discussion in this House as well with regards to some of the changes here. I have to admit that hunting and snowmobiling and that kind of stuff, ATVing [all terrain vehicle], isn't something that I do on a regular basis. I tend to not participate in things like that, so that is not my area of expertise.

But I have talked to some individuals. Some people have come to my office with some concerns with regards to this legislation,

and I spoke with some individuals that are community leaders. When I was the critic for municipal relations, this was being discussed at that point. So I had some discussion with some council members and reeves from RMs [rural municipality] and also some of the urban centres. They wanted to talk about this. And I also talked to some of the individuals who would maybe be impacted with regards to the changes of this legislation with regards to hunters and the First Nations individuals who oftentimes hunt and gather on land too, and how they feel about the changes to this piece of legislation. So again this is a very controversial piece, and so I am pretty sure when this comes to committee that there'll be a whole lot of discussion.

But I do want to bring up some points when I did some of my research with regards to this. When the minister brought this forward, he was quoted saying this will bring a balance between the rights of rural landowners and members of the public. Even that statement itself, I don't understand how these changes will bring that balance and what he means by that. So I think there would be some good questions with regards to that.

This piece of legislation amends other pieces of legislation such as *The Trespass to Property Act* and *The Snowmobile Act* and I believe *The Wildlife Act*. And so there's also some other pieces of legislation that was discussed when there was the media release with regards to changes of this legislation which the minister did not bring in his remarks. So I don't know exactly what impacts the changes of this legislation will have on *The All Terrain Vehicles Act* and the provincial lands regulation Act. And so those would be some important questions to ask once it goes to committee, of what kind of impact that will have.

He also indicated that the reasons why they are doing this was because there has been concerns with the increase of crimes in rural communities and rural property, the increase of property damage and biosecurity. And so that's important that we recognize that because my understanding is that there's some research out there that says that crimes in the rural areas are higher than what it is in the urban areas at this time.

And so there's a lot of reasoning for that. We've had some discussion with law enforcement officers that indicate that, due to the increase of drug use with regards to especially crystal meth and opioids and such, that individuals who are seeking funding for that to keep up with their drug use, property crimes tend to go up. And that's what law enforcement officers have indicated, was that when you see an increase of drug use, you see an increase of property crime. And oftentimes rural areas are areas that make it easier for property crime to happen. And so I understand the concerns that people have in those areas, and I know some communities who have done some work on their own to address some of those concerns.

Whenever we make some serious changes to pieces of legislation, I often wonder what the research background is with regards to those changes. So some of the questions I have is, has there been any data to indicate that these changes that will be implemented in this legislation, will that result in a reduction in crime? We know that Manitoba and Alberta have similar policies, similar pieces of legislation. When they implemented this, did that show a reduction of crime or whether their crime levels within the rural areas . . . And do they attribute changes that are being suggested in this legislation to be something that

helped reduce that?

I think we need to make decisions that are evidence based, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and be able to go to the public and say, this is where we found some information. This is the data we have. And I definitely would like to see ministries do more of that information digging. We could hire the proper individuals, researchers, to do that kind of information. And we need to be accountable when we're making this type of changes and showing how that . . . the reasoning behind it.

Because, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I did the research on this particular bill and I looked to see what led to these changes, a lot of it went back to an online questionnaire that was put forward by this government from August 9th to October 2nd. And like I said, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I'm not a big wildlife enthusiastic person. I don't do hunting, but my understanding is that's about the time of the year that a lot of people are out and about and doing that kind of stuff. I used to date a guy that wasn't around a lot in September because he was out hunting, you know? And so I'm wondering how those times really met the individuals that we are looking for to be respondents of this questionnaire. So that's something to be in question as well.

I believe in a province with a million people they had 1,600 people who responded to this questionnaire. I don't think that's enough of a body of people to say that this is exactly what Saskatchewan people want, the responses from them. But anyway, the government believes it is. And so out of the 1,600 people who responded to this questionnaire that was done at a time frame that wasn't very readily available for individuals who participate in these activities, 65 per cent of them voted in favour of having to ask for permission to access land, so 65 per cent of that 1,600 people. So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I don't think that is a good pool to be basing a lot of our decisions on. And the minister didn't indicate anywhere here . . . And I sure hope that he has done his research with talking with stakeholders and getting some information from them.

So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think there'll be a lot of questions that the critic will ask with regards to who was consulted, what information was gathered, where did they get the evidence-based information to indicate that this was going to be something that will reduce the crime, will reduce the property damage, will reduce biosecurity, because those are the three things that were supposed to be the priorities with regards to making these changes.

[15:15]

So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, what I understand is instead of posting signs on property, which was what was the prior practice, was that if individuals didn't want people to go on their property they had to post. I understand that that was difficult because some people have like, large areas, right, you know? And it's hard to make sure that there's signs in every area that a person would see it. Oftentimes signs go down for multiple different reasons.

So people have indicated that that was a problem and it was hard to be able to ensure that you had enough signage if you didn't want people to come on your property. Some of the other issues that I heard was, especially with snowmobiles or ATVs, people would go on other people's property without permission and they

would damage the property with their all-terrain vehicles, and obviously that's problematic when you have individuals going on other people's property and damaging it and not taking responsibility.

So now in order to ask for permission by owners though, I know a barrier prior . . . Because I think it was good practice for most people who engage in hunting and such. Most people would go out and try to reach out to the owners and ask for permission. That was due diligence, you know, and so I don't think this was a practice that wasn't tried to be followed. It wasn't legislated but it was just proper. And so what they said was an issue was that they would try to go to the RM offices to find out whose property was what on the maps, but some RM offices are located in different locations. Some of them are only open for certain amounts of time and so they said they had a hard time being able to get that updated information from those RM offices. So that is something that will need to be looked into.

Also, I'm wondering where will the information for the leased Crown land be available and who to contact, and are those certain times and dates that that'll be available? So that's a question as well, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I don't know if any of these changes to this legislation is actually going to help with those issues that I just mentioned, you know. And so I guess I would have some questions with the minister and his officials with regards to how will they ensure that individuals will be able to find out who owns those lands or who's responsible for them. And how are they going to work better to ensuring that that is updated on a regular basis?

I think question two is, how will this be monitored and enforced, Mr. Deputy Speaker? We already know that our enforcement officers are already strapped for time, so how will we know that they'll be able to add this to their plate and be able to do a good job with enforcement?

The other issue that it has is this creates a presumption that a person is found on premises does not have consent. So officers will have to present to them saying that they will expect people to provide that level of consent. And what will they need? Will they need a certain paper? What kind of information will they need to have on them to prove that they have consent of the owner?

Also one of the questions I had was, what length of time does that permission . . . is in effect? Is there some information within the legislation here that says it's one year, six months, three months? Or if the owner provides you permission, is it deemed to assume that that permission is good for a lifetime? I don't know what those answers are, Mr. Deputy Speaker, so I'm pretty sure that'll be some questions that the critic might want to ask when it comes to committee.

So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, at this time I think I'm going to adjourn debate on Bill No. 160. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member from Prince Albert Northcote has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 160, *The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018*. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do now adjourn for the CPA [Commonwealth Parliamentary Association] supper tonight.

The Deputy Speaker: — The Government House Leader has moved that this House adjourns. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:20.]

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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company

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Minister of Finance

Hon. Jeremy Harrison
Minister of Trade and Export Development
Minister of Immigration and Career Training

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Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis
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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor
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Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan

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Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop
Insurance Corporation

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Minister of Social Services

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Minister of Justice and Attorney General
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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
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Minister of Education
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds and
Priority Saskatchewan