



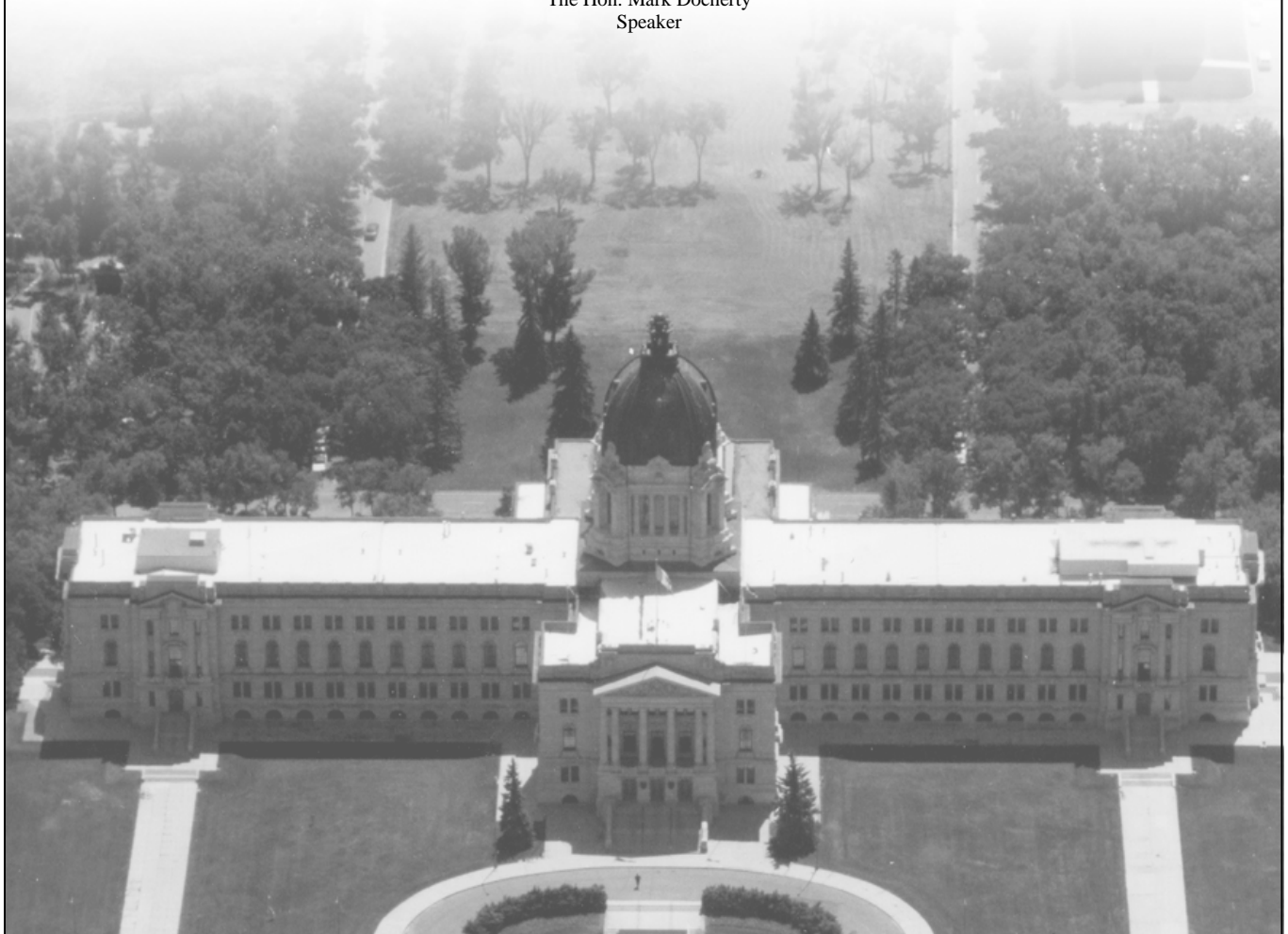
THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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

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Leader of the Opposition — Ryan Meili

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Wyant, Hon. Gordon — Saskatoon Northwest (SP)
Young, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

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

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

The Speaker: — Why is the minister on his feet?

Hon. Mr. Kaeding: — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take leave for a personal statement.

The Speaker: — The minister has asked leave for a personal statement. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Report on Pinehouse Village Investigation

Hon. Mr. Kaeding: — Mr. Speaker, in question period on Thursday I said that we're awaiting the report from the investigation of Pinehouse. Mr. Speaker, I misspoke and want to inform the House that the Ministry of Government Relations, my staff, had received the report at that time.

Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Justice is doing a review of the report as we speak. They are also going to consult with the Privacy Commissioner and the Provincial Ombudsman on the material in that report before it is released. We're awaiting the return of the report from Justice and we'll make that report public. It is important that privacy is protected in accordance with the Saskatchewan privacy legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of this legislature, I have a number of introductions that I would like to make. And as we know, Mr. Speaker, later today we will be moving some important motions remembering members that have served before us in this Assembly and who are no longer with us, Mr. Speaker.

Today I would like to welcome to all members some family members of these members to their Legislative Assembly. And I'm hopeful I don't miss anyone; I think I have everyone, Mr. Speaker. But beginning with some family members of the late Roy Bailey, Mr. Speaker, we have with us his daughters, Susan Roberts and Janet Tetreau. Mr. Speaker, his sister Margo Maxwell and his nephew Winston Bailey have joined us here today for an important day where we have the opportunity to honour Roy Bailey.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to welcome Phyllis Huyghebaert, of course the wife of our friend Yogi, here to her Assembly, Mr. Speaker. And she's accompanied by Linda Stewart, who I'm almost certain that another member is going to get up and introduce shortly after me, Mr. Speaker — her MLA [Member of

the Legislative Assembly] and possibly husband, Mr. Speaker. And I also see Terry Lynn Carefoot in the Assembly accompanying Phyllis, Mr. Speaker, a friend to many in this legislature as well.

I just wanted to, through you, Mr. Speaker, to all members of this Assembly, to welcome these members to their Legislative Assembly on this very important day.

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join with the Premier in welcoming the members of the Huyghebaert and Bailey family to the legislature, and if there are members of the other families for who we're offering condolence motions today watching, to welcome them and their attention to these important motions today.

It's so necessary that we do reflect on the work of those who have come before us and have done so much to serve the province in this House. And I'll be pleased to be taking part in those motions of condolence later this afternoon, but want to ask all the members to join me in welcoming those who are with us today to celebrate the memories of those who have served in this legislature.

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

Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure to welcome Phyllis Huyghebaert here today. Today Yogi, our friend Yogi will be honoured, and I'm glad that Phyllis could be here for it and Yogi be remembered.

And Terry Lynn Carefoot, my constituency assistant who is an organizational genius I think, because look how organized I always am. She deserves all the credit and none of the blame.

My wife, Linda, for more years than I'd like to remember, and more than . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . I didn't mean it. I didn't mean it like that. More years than she likes to remember, who luckily for me is a registered nurse by trade. And I think I may owe her my life after this little episode I've had with cancer, so I'd better be nicer to her. Welcome, and I hope all members will welcome these three guests. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome a guest that's sitting in the west gallery, Mr. Speaker, a resident of Saskatoon Northwest. Rose Botting is here with us today, Mr. Speaker. You know, the Minister of Health and I met with Rose and her sister last week to talk about a matter of some concern to them, Mr. Speaker. And so I just wanted to welcome Rose to her Legislative Assembly, and I'd ask everybody to join me.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to join with the minister in welcoming Rose Botting to her legislature as well. Rose and I have had an opportunity to sit down and talk

about her family's experience with the long-term care system here, Mr. Speaker. And I was glad to hear that, when they learned that Rose was coming to the legislature, that the meeting happened pretty quickly last Friday. But Rose still has some outstanding concerns.

And it's always a pleasure to have guests here in the legislature, so I would ask everybody to join with me in welcoming Rose as well.

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

Mr. Fiaz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you, through you to all the members of the Assembly, I would like us to welcome 24 very intelligent students, grade 5 and 6 from Ethel Milliken School, accompanied by Chloe Hughes and parent chaperones with them. I ask all the members to join me and welcome these very intelligent students in their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Mr. Nerlien: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of the House, I am very pleased to welcome today teacher Riley Hobbins, students Kaylee Duhaime and Kamden Logan from Porcupine Plain to their Legislative Assembly. Please join me in welcoming them to this Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned people and businesses and communities all across Saskatchewan as it relates to the Sask Party government's imposition of the PST onto construction labour.

This quite frankly is the epitome of a job-killing tax, Mr. Speaker. In this case, the current government saw a slowing economy and it slammed on the brakes. And the results are damaging — damaging to our economy, damaging for workers that are facing unemployment and that have lost jobs, damaging for those families that have been torn apart as many workers have been forced to move far outside Saskatchewan in the pursuit of work, 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 saddling families and businesses with the cost of their mismanagement and immediately reinstate the PST exemption on construction and stop hurting Saskatchewan businesses and families.

These petitions today are signed by concerned residents from Melville, Regina, and White City. I so submit.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cannington.

Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure 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. Agriculture and oil are the primary economic generators in Cannington — many, many jobs in the oil and gas industry, as well as many jobs, Mr. Speaker, across Saskatchewan and Alberta where those jobs have disappeared because we cannot get our oil to market, Mr. Speaker.

The hypocrisy of the activists and anti-oil people in Canada, who oppose the safest method of transporting oil and gas, is astounding. Most material goods and food, in one way, are available because of oil and gas, Mr. Speaker. We must have pipelines and resource production. Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver would grind to a halt without oil and gas.

The prayer, Mr. Speaker:

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by people from Hafford, North Battleford, Maymont, Parkside, and Battleford. I so present.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition to restore public control over Wascana Park. Those who have signed this petition wish to draw our attention to a number of points: that Wascana Park is a treasured urban park and conservation area that has been responsibly managed through an equal partnership between the city of Regina, the University of Regina, and the provincial government for more than 50 years; that the government unilaterally gave itself majority control of the board through Bill 50 and *The Provincial Capital Commission Act* in 2017; that the city of Regina and the University of Regina have both expressed an openness and willingness to return to a governance model based on equality; and that more and more people in Regina and right across the province, Mr. Speaker, are becoming concerned with the growing commercialization of Wascana Park and would like to see it stopped.

Mr. Speaker, I'll 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 Wascana Centre Authority and end the commercialization of Wascana Park.

Mr. Speaker, those who have signed this petition today reside in Regina. I do so present.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm rising today to present a petition calling for a public inquiry into the GTH [Global Transportation Hub] land deal. The people who have signed this petition would like to bring to 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 then lost millions.

Instead of shining a very bright light on the issue and calling a public inquiry, the Sask Party government is instead hiding behind excuses around public prosecutions. The Sask Party government continues to block key witnesses from providing testimony about the land deal even as new details continue to emerge. Mr. Speaker, it is Saskatchewan people who footed the bill for the GTH land deal and they deserve nothing less than the truth.

I'll read the prayer:

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

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

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I stand in my place today to present a petition calling for a dialysis unit for northwestern Saskatchewan communities.

And the prayer reads as follows:

To cause the provincial government to provide the public funding to set up a satellite unit in northwestern Saskatchewan to provide hemodialysis treatment that is in closer proximity to patients' homes. This would greatly lessen the burden of out-of-pocket costs for the people from this area who are undergoing kidney dialysis. This will allow northwestern people with kidney failure to live where they want to live and to not have to be forced to move away in order to stay alive.

And as I've said time and time again, Mr. Speaker, as I rise in this Assembly, the people that have signed this petition are from all throughout Saskatchewan. And on this particular page they are from La Loche and Ile-a-la-Crosse, and I so present.

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling for critical supports for survivors of domestic violence. The individuals who have signed the petition today wish to bring to our attention the following: Saskatchewan has the highest rates of domestic violence amongst all the provinces in Canada, and employees who are survivors of domestic violence should be able to take a leave of absence from their employment without penalty.

[13:45]

Mr. Speaker, this is what we called for in our private member's bill, which calls for five days' paid leave to be provided to all

employees in Saskatchewan. This is, I think, the fourth time we've put forward this provision. I'm frankly sick and tired of waiting for this provision to be passed. It's way past due for this government to pass it.

Let me just tell, as part of this petition, other provinces that have this: Manitoba has five days' paid leave; Ontario has five days' paid leave; Quebec, two days' paid leave; New Brunswick, five days' paid leave; PEI [Prince Edward Island], three days' paid leave; and Newfoundland and Labrador, three days' paid leave.

Shockingly, Mr. Speaker, none of these provinces' economies have imploded as a result of this provision being put forward. As a minimum we in Saskatchewan should be doing at least what other provinces are doing to protect survivors of domestic violence. It's time for this government to stand up, show some leadership, do the right thing, and pass this bill.

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 Legislative Assembly to pass legislation providing critical support for survivors of domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals signing this petition today come from Saskatoon. More particularly, they come from the constituencies of Saskatoon Westview, Saskatoon Eastview, and Saskatoon Riversdale. I do so present.

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition calling for a \$15-an-hour minimum wage. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners are well aware that while Saskatchewan used to — a fair amount of time ago, Mr. Speaker — used to have the highest minimum wage in the country, it is now currently the second-lowest minimum wage in all of Canada, and it will soon be the lowest minimum wage in all of Canada, Mr. Speaker.

The petitioners 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. And they point out that a minimum wage should never be a poverty wage, 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 is signed by citizens from the good city of Moose Jaw. I so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Attack on Mosque in New Zealand

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Fifty people are dead and 50 more were wounded on Friday in Christchurch, New Zealand in a horrific act of terrorism that took the lives of men, women, and children — Muslims at prayer in their place of worship.

This Friday I, as I know many in this House did, joined with friends at the mosque to be part of the community coming together to show solidarity and support. And it's so important that we do that but, of course, it's not enough.

Hate is hate. And terrorist attacks targeting people at their place of worship, this atrocity in Christchurch, the synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, the attack on a Catholic mass at Jolo in the Philippines — all of these acts must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. The Christchurch massacre was an act of terrorism designed to divide, to further spread violence. And extremism is on the rise around the world. We have a responsibility to speak out against it.

Sadly, this hatred is not foreign to us here in Canada. We know that the attacker spoke in the language of white supremacy. He referenced the killer behind the shooting at the Quebec mosque two years ago.

Once hate speech becomes normalized, then it becomes popularized, and finally actualized in acts of terror like these. We must do all we can to stop it at its root. It is with deep sorrow that we offer our condolences and express our solidarity with the victims and their families. We stand with New Zealand and with people of faith from around the world and all those impacted by these horrible acts.

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

Celebrating Joe Fafard

Mr. Oluson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise in the House to celebrate the life of beloved Saskatchewan artist Joe Fafard. Known across Canada for his incredible art pieces, Joe had the ability to take an ordinary subject and through his art make it extraordinary.

Mr. Speaker, he was born in the small community of Ste. Marthe to French-Canadian parents. After completing his master's degree at Pennsylvania State University, Joe came back to the University of Regina and taught from 1968 to 1974. Later he would build his long-term home, a straw house on a gorgeous acreage about 30 kilometres northwest of Lumsden.

Mr. Speaker, he received a number of awards and accolades over the course of his career, including the Saskatchewan Arts Board Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007, honorary doctorates from the University of Manitoba and the University of Regina, and was named to the Order of Canada in 1981.

Mr. Speaker, we love his art because it ties us to our prairie roots here in Saskatchewan. His sculptures are memorable and familiar and have left a lasting impression on the people of our province and beyond. Mr. Speaker, we in this House send our deepest condolences to the Fafard family but know his spirit will live on

through his artwork for generations. Rest in peace, Joe.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to acknowledge the passing of the renowned Saskatchewan sculptor Joe Fafard this past Saturday. Joe Fafard, a member of the Order of Canada, was born to French-Canadian parents in the rural community of Ste. Marthe, Saskatchewan. He lived in Lumsden. His phenomenal work spanned five decades. It depicted the simplicities of Saskatchewan, its peoples, and their surroundings. He is best known as a prairie artist that captured the essence of our world in his work. Internationally known, Joe's sculptures can be seen across Canada.

We all have our favourites, whether it be the cows, the horses, or the rooster that was here in the legislature recently. I especially liked the sculpture of Premier Tommy Douglas. Others may like his sculpture of Prime Minister John Diefenbaker.

Joe was a pioneer in the art world, opening a studio factory in Pense. In 2013 he went on tour with his son, Joël Fafard, a well-known musician. He wasn't sure how the joint venture would work but that he would be willing to entertain the idea of trying something different. He said then, "Art is really for humans, for people in a situation where people can come into contact with it. It's not about snobbishness. It's about the common lives we live."

Mr. Speaker, I would ask all members to join me in sending our condolences to Joe Fafard's family and friends during this difficult time. May we always remember his impact on Saskatchewan. Thank you.

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

Z99 Radiothon

Hon. Ms. Beaudry-Mellor: — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on this day 17 years ago, I gave birth to twins, Kayman and Montana. Unfortunately they were impatient to greet the world, and not only were they premature, but complications led to my son spending several days in the neonatal intensive unit at the General Hospital. I can tell you that as a new parent, having your child whisked away to neonatal is really terrifying, but I quickly found that the people who work there are really, really special.

Thanks to the unconditional support of the Z99 community and people of southern Saskatchewan, the 32nd Annual Radiothon raised \$643,000 for the Hospitals of Regina Foundation in support of the neonatal intensive care unit. Year after year we see so many families and supporters gather at the Cornwall Centre for 36 hours with an important call to action. Each dollar raised will go towards bring the best pediatric care and comfort for families in NICU [neonatal intensive care unit] and help save babies' lives.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 32 years, the Z99 radiothon has raised more than \$9.25 million for the Hospitals of Regina Foundation. But what is more important is that so many more babies are given a chance at a healthy life, thanks to the equipment and care that

has been funded by the incredible people of this province. Mr. Speaker, I now ask all members to please join me in congratulating Z99, CC, Cassity, and Lorie, and the whole Rawlco Radio family on a successful 32nd annual radiothon.

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

Artist Receives Arts Board Grant

Hon. Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I'd like to congratulate a local artist from my constituency, John McDonald, on receiving an Indigenous/Métis Art and Artists grant from the Saskatchewan Arts Board. The Indigenous/Métis Art and Artists program aims to help artists either develop their artistic or cultural practices.

John, a father of triplets, is an accomplished artist and is known for exploring very pressing and important issues that indigenous communities face each day. At the most recent grant deadlines, the Saskatchewan Arts Board has awarded funding to more than 110 individuals and organizations, totalling over \$840,000.

John is an activist for his community, and this grant will give him the resources to share his story and his message through contemporary styles and other art forms. Not only has the Arts Board given him this grant but have actually purchased his artwork as well. He is very grateful for their support of his artwork and his message, as this will help him grow as an artist and grow his narrative.

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Arts Board has reached over more than 1.8 million people with their exhibitions and other activities and has made a great impact on our arts community. I ask all members to join me in congratulating John McDonald on his Saskatchewan Arts Board grant. Thank you.

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

Saskatchewan First Nations Spelling Bee

Ms. Lambert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The fourth annual Saskatchewan First Nations Spelling Bee was held in Saskatoon this past month. My colleague, the Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs, joined an exciting crowd cheering on 114 of our brightest and best spellers. Participants are ages 6 to 12 and competed in three categories.

Mr. Speaker, before the competition, participants are sent a list of 399 words to learn and are encouraged to sit down with their families and practise as much as possible. Many even set up practice spelling bees within their community to make sure they are ready for the big day. Not only does this educate the spellers, but it also helps parents tune up on their spelling as well, making it a great learning experience for the whole family.

Mr. Speaker, top spellers in each category earn themselves a ticket to the national competition, which will be held in Toronto this May. This spelling bee is more than just testing your skills. It's a true confidence builder and gives students a chance to practise communication skills, critical thinking, problem solving, and vocabulary.

Mr. Speaker, my oldest granddaughter Gianna is showing an interest and proficiency in spelling. She is in grade 2. We practise spelling when she comes over for sleepovers at nana's house.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask all members to please join me in congratulating the participants of the 2019 First Nations Spelling Bee. Thank you.

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

Raiders Break Franchise Records

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in the House today to recognize the incredible accomplishments from my Prince Albert Raiders in their 2018 and '19 regular season finish, with the most wins in the WHL [Western Hockey League], at 54.

Mr. Speaker, between October 8th and December 1st, this current team broke records with the longest winning streak in franchise history. They also earned the first East Division title since 1998-99 season. On top of that, they spent 15 consecutive weeks as the number one team in the Canadian Hockey League top-10 rankings.

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to be at the game Saturday evening where the Raiders were presented by the WHL commissioner, Ron Robison, the Scotty Munro trophy as this year's regular-season champions.

Our goalie Ian Scott set new franchise records, with eight shutouts, and is currently on pace to set new team records in goals-against average and save percentage. Ian was joined by his teammate Brett Leason and represented Team Canada at this World Juniors in BC [British Columbia].

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments that these young men have achieved this past season has inspired our city in so many ways, and we cannot wait to see how far they will go in the playoffs. I now ask all my colleagues to congratulate the P.A. [Prince Albert] Raiders and coaching staff on an exceptional 2018-19 regular season and wish them all the best in their road to the 2019 Memorial Cup.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Proposed Group Home in Weyburn

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's Monday so once again we're bringing forth questions from the people of Saskatchewan who are looking for answers, and today's question comes from Mark Harding. And he's asked about something that's been on the minds of many of us, and that's the decision made in Weyburn by the council there to not allow a group home to go ahead in a new neighbourhood.

[14:00]

And this is something that was referenced by the member from Weyburn last week, and I think the sentiment is very clearly

shared in this House. We did not like the language that was used that justified that decision in discriminatory and insensitive terms. I think we all can stand against that. We didn't like the decision itself.

Now since that time, we'd hoped that the mayor and council would come forward and make the right decision, allow this project to go ahead. We've heard some walking back of that language. That's a good step. But this decision needs to be changed. The group home needs to go forward. And we need to hear from the Premier. What will he be doing to make sure that this project is allowed to go ahead and to make sure that no councils are making decisions based on discriminatory logic?

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

Hon. Mr. Merriman: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And this side of the House certainly does share that disappointment with the decision that happened in Weyburn last week. Mr. Speaker, I'm glad that we pushed this back to the locals to be able to make that decision, Mr. Speaker. I had an opportunity last week to be able to speak with the mayor. The MLA from Weyburn was talking with the mayor and councillors certainly after the decision and throughout the weekend, Mr. Speaker. And I'm glad to be able to say that they are having a meeting today as of 3 o'clock to be able to discuss this very important issue, Mr. Speaker, for their next council meeting which is, I've been told, next week.

But, Mr. Speaker, I stand very proudly on the record that this government has in working with people with different abilities. We've been able to transfer people from Weyburn on a person-centred plan for each individual to make sure that they were successful in their opportunities. Mr. Speaker, this is unprecedented, and we're glad that the Weyburn council is reconsidering this decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Condemnation of Hatred and Violence

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My thanks to the minister for the update. We certainly hope that this poor decision is reversed and that that group home will be able to go ahead.

Mr. Speaker, we were all shocked and saddened on Friday when we heard of the events in New Zealand in Christchurch, the attack on a mosque that killed 50 people, people who were at prayer. People of all faiths should have the ability to practise, to worship in peace and security.

This past week we were visited here in Saskatchewan by Ihsaan Gardee, who is the head of the National Council of Canadian Muslims. He was visiting Saskatchewan to talk about hate speech. His organization does great work across the country, work that unfortunately is becoming increasingly necessary as we see the rise in extremism and the rise of hatred.

Now one of the things that his organization has been working towards, working with other community organizations, human rights groups, have been advocating for the declaration of January 29th as a day of action against hate and against intolerance.

And, Mr. Speaker, my question for the Premier today is, would he join with us in declaring right here in Saskatchewan that every January 29th will here be a day of action against hate and against intolerance?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And thank you to the member opposite, the Leader of the Opposition, for his mention of what was an absolutely senseless death of 50 individuals in Christchurch, New Zealand last Friday. I think all of us in this Assembly, across the province, across the nation, and around the world grieve with their families, Mr. Speaker, in what is a senseless action, Mr. Speaker.

We have spoken and spoken loudly last week with respect to condemning not only Islamophobia, Mr. Speaker, but any form of racism or any form of action or thought or speech that is racist in any regard to any group, Mr. Speaker. And with respect to recognizing hate and how we need to do better in our society, Mr. Speaker, it should be every day. It should be every day in our actions, Mr. Speaker. And we should remember to treat people with the same respect and the same dignity that we expect to be treated in return, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Of course I agree that we should stand against hate each and every day. Yet the organizations that are working hard against hate speech are asking for this particular action on January 29th. And I'd like to hear from the Premier that there's some consideration of going forward with declaring that day here in Saskatchewan as well.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, the organization has met with the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport with respect to the date, and it will be under consideration of the Government of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, as we move forward.

And, Mr. Speaker, I know members on both sides of this House — the Deputy Premier, the member from Saskatoon University — have visited mosques, Mr. Speaker, in our respective communities across the province. And I would say this to our Muslim community, most specifically here in Saskatchewan but across the nation, that our families are with yours as we go through this, dealing with this senseless act in Christchurch, New Zealand, Mr. Speaker. Our families are with yours in your grief, Mr. Speaker. And our families are with yours each and every day, Mr. Speaker.

With respect to the January 29th day, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport has met with the organization, numerous organizations, and it'll be under consideration.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This event further highlights a troubling trend around the world, a growth in far-right extremist, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic language and action, Mr. Speaker, in New Zealand, in the United States, in the UK [United Kingdom], and unfortunately here in Saskatchewan

as well.

The Premier recently tweeted support for a yellow vest rally that included anti-immigration propaganda, far-right US [United States] conspiracies, as well as calls for violence against the Prime Minister. The social media of those yellow vest pages, those yellow vest groups, have been full of anti-Muslim sentiments, Mr. Speaker. When asked if he was . . . Not only did he tweet support for that event, when asked if he was concerned about ministers of the Crown attending similar events, he said he was not concerned. And then he went on to speak at a rally himself that was associated with yellow vests, Mr. Speaker.

Now my question is, with the events of Friday now in mind, has he changed his mind? Does he understand that this sends the wrong message, a message that is discouraging to newcomers and encouraging those who would spread hate against them? Mr. Speaker, will he stand up today and say that neither he nor his cabinet or any of his MLAs will show their face at any event with any association with hate speech or extremism again?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I will not politicize the senseless deaths of 50 people in this province or on the floor of this legislature. Mr. Speaker, let me be very, very clear. I, we, as a Government of Saskatchewan, condemn violence against any community no matter their faith or creed, Mr. Speaker.

There are ministers that have attended rallies in this province, Mr. Speaker, specifically in opposition to some of the policies that are coming forward that are affecting our communities' wealth, Mr. Speaker, and our families' wealth.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to policies with respect to immigration and people moving to this province into communities that I live in and others live in in this province, Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan's record is our creed. And Saskatchewan's record is this: since 2007, 108,300 immigrants from over 190 countries, Mr. Speaker, make up a good portion of the 165,000 people that have chosen a community in Saskatchewan as their home.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Premier missed the point of the question and missed the seriousness, missed the seriousness of legitimizing the kind of hate speech that has been associated with yellow vest events and online activity. When this kind of speech becomes normalized, then grows to become popularized, and then it grows to become acted on, as we're starting to see in more and more places around the world. And this, Mr. Speaker, sadly but truly can happen here as well.

Mr. Speaker, last week the Minister of Energy was upset that we mentioned these events, and the comments . . . She dismissed this as a few kooky posts on the internet, kooky posts like this one that came out just this weekend: "When Muslims invade other countries and try to change their way of life and try to push their so-called religion on them, this is unfortunately what's going to happen." This is not an isolated post, and this sure as heck is not kooky, Mr. Speaker. This is dangerous and it's one of hundreds

of such posts.

Mr. Speaker, this movement has attracted so many people with views that are dangerous to our society and . . .

The Speaker: — I'll remind the Leader of the Opposition to keep his questions in line with the administration of government. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This movement has attracted many with extreme views. And the presence of cabinet ministers at those events, the presence of the Premier at those events encourages those views to be held. So will the Premier do the right thing today and make it very clear that neither he nor his cabinet nor any of his MLAs will be showing up at any events with even the loosest association with any form of hate speech?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I'll be very clear once again. Myself, members on this side of the House representing the government of the people of Saskatchewan condemn any and all violence against any community, in this province or abroad, no matter their faith or creed. Mr. Speaker, we also condemn Islamophobia. We condemn Islamophobia in any form, Mr. Speaker.

Our entire government stands today with the Muslim community in this province, in this nation, and around the world, Mr. Speaker, and most particularly in New Zealand. As we see, the Muslim community in that country has been faced with a very senseless and horrendous attack on their faith and, in 50 cases, on their lives, Mr. Speaker.

Again, the record of the province of Saskatchewan when it comes to supporting immigration into our communities is strong, Mr. Speaker; 108,000 people have moved here from over 190 countries all around the world. This is a record of openness that our province and our communities and our people, our people are proud of, Mr. Speaker.

And I would say this: we're just getting going, Mr. Speaker. As we move forward with a strong economy here in the province of Saskatchewan, we'll be looking to attract people from other areas of the world, other areas of this nation, Mr. Speaker. That is the recipe for success for our province. It's been the recipe that we've followed for the last, now about 11 years. And it's the recipe that we intend to continue following, starting in about two more sleeps, Mr. Speaker, when the Minister of Finance stands and delivers a balanced budget on behalf of the people of this province.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier likes to boast about the growing numbers of people in this province, something that we are happy to see as well, and happy to know that so many people from around the world have chosen to call Saskatchewan home.

But it's very disappointing to see a Premier that refuses to distance himself in any way from a movement that has been willing to foster and to spread anti-immigrant sentiment. That

sends the wrong message.

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Order, please. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is, sadly, a dark link between what happened in New Zealand and events here in Canada. The shooter used terminology . . . He said, on his rifle he'd written, "Here's your migration compact." And I bring that up, Mr. Speaker, because this UN [United Nations] migration compact — which is a non-binding agreement that is really a set of principles about how to treat migrants well, newcomers well, in a country — this has become a point of obsession of far-right conspiracy theorists across the country. It's been used to sow division by people who foster these ideas, including the federal leader of the Premier. Mr. Andrew Scheer has made a great deal about this UN migration compact.

So I'd like to understand where the Premier stands on this particular file that has become such a point of division across the country. Is he willing to reject those conspiracy theories and support and show that he's for that UN compact on migration, or will he support those using this benign agreement to foster hate?

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

Hon. Ms. Eyre: — Mr. Speaker, these aspersions simply must stop. Last week I mentioned the Leader of the Opposition was a spokesperson for the anti-free-trade group with the Student Activist Network back in 2001, which is a little ironic in light of his supposed current focus on the economy. And he was arrested at the Summit of the Americas. In a Canadian Press story, he called the police action an overreaction. "It was absolutely phenomenal," he said. Perhaps the wrong adjective. "I was witness to a massive cloud of tear gas. The area looked like it was under siege."

I raise it because the member repeatedly wrings his hands about the company members on this side allegedly keep when they attend pro-oil rallies, Mr. Speaker. He presents everyone who's ever attended as a racist. But that day back in 2001, he joined forces with the Sierra Club, the International Socialist union. In fact none other than Cuban dictator Fidel Castro sent a special note of support to the protestors, noting ". . . the brave and heroic behaviour of those that struggle there for such a just cause." You can be sure that if Facebook existed back then, Mr. Speaker, there'd be some pretty far-out posts from those groups too. And I quote Rex Murphy, whom I . . .

[14:15]

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, if we're going to compare arrest records in this House, I will happily stand up for having been arrested for standing up for my convictions rather than having been convicted for not being able to stand and trying to drive. Mr. Speaker, that is out of line to bring that up and out of . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Order. Member, the business of government and individual ministerial portfolios. Let's keep our questions on those topics.

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, I'll happily stand, proudly stand behind my standing up for my convictions and my arrest on that case. They want to bring it up. Go right ahead. But I feel perfectly legitimate to say that there's a number arrests on that side of the House that I don't think anyone would be proud to talk about. Now . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — No personal slights. All right. It's getting close. I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Meili: — The question remains that we've got members on the other side who create a false moral equivalence for people that are willing to stand up and have concerns about climate change, about clean water. They want to equate that with people who are willing to use language of hate. And they're willing to show up at those events and they refuse to distance themselves even remotely, and by doing do, Mr. Speaker, they create space for those people to see their views as valued and important.

Will the Premier stand up and shut down that association? Will he show any courage at all?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Energy.

Hon. Ms. Eyre: — Mr. Speaker, as I was saying. I would quote Rex Murphy, whom I'm sure the Economy critic reads religiously. And he said recently, "If you're going to characterize protests by whatever fringe elements may or may not attach to them . . . do it universally." And I think those are good words to live by, Mr. Speaker.

This was a tragic event on Friday and the Premier has spoken very eloquently about the need to pull together on a dark day and dark days following such as this. This is not the time to throw mud and to not stand in anything but unity — this side and theirs — of course against every form of hatred, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — All right. We're getting a little . . . well actually we're getting far too personal. That's got no business in this Chamber. Direct our questions and our answers in a respectful manner. Period. That's it. Last warning.

I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

Conditions in Long-Term Care Homes

Ms. Chartier: — For people who have lost loved ones in our health system, it can be incredibly hard to figure out why their loved ones have died. For Rose Botting, it was only because she and her sister fought so hard for answers that they learned what happened to their mother, Frances Sander, shortly after moving into Rose Villa long-term care home in Rosetown.

Frances was 82 and suffered from heart failure and dementia. In the few short days she was at the care home, she had numerous falls requiring a specialized care plan to monitor and assist her, particularly at night. But in the early morning of April 10th last

year, her plan did not appear to be followed and she was found in her washroom, unconscious for an undetermined amount of time in a pool of blood, before waiting hours to be transferred to RUH [Royal University Hospital].

The critical incident review showed that people didn't do their jobs. That is obvious. Rose is here today and wants an answer to the bigger question: why didn't people do their jobs, Mr. Speaker? She's been fighting for almost a year to get some closure for her mother and her family. Why weren't staff able to follow the care plan and provide Frances with what she needed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome Rose to her Legislative Assembly. As was mentioned earlier during introductions, the Deputy Premier and I had the opportunity to meet with Rose on Friday to discuss the issues that the critic just raised, Mr. Speaker. At that time I offered my condolences to Rose. I'd certainly like to do that again on the passing of her mother.

Mr. Speaker, at that meeting, which I felt was a very good meeting, very productive — I hope Rose felt the same — I offered to speak to the chief executive officer of the Saskatchewan Health Authority, Mr. Speaker, to arrange for him to have some senior management meet with Rose and her family to discuss the issues surrounding Frances's passing. Mr. Speaker, Rose seemed receptive to that idea. I followed up with that this morning, Mr. Speaker. I spoke to the CEO [chief executive officer]. He's in the process of arranging that meeting to hopefully answer some of the questions that Rose and her family feel still haven't been answered, and that meeting should be held in the next little while. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Rose has been looking forward to that meeting for a year, Mr. Speaker. Rose and her family have had outstanding questions even after the critical incident review. Why did staff appear to disregard important care guidelines that would have helped keep their mom safe? Why did it take so long to find her after her fall? Why did it take hours to get an ambulance to RUH? The family know immediate care may not have saved her life, but it could have given her a fighting chance.

Rose knows her mother isn't coming back, but her mother's experience tells her there are gaping holes when it comes to care for seniors. We know care workers have the best interests of residents at heart, but are often spread too thin to provide adequate care. Rose wants to know what concrete changes will be made in long-term care. What will this minister do to ensure no other family has to go through what hers has?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, first I would say in response to the member's first comment about waiting for that meeting, Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that Rose and her family have had both meetings and phone calls with officials in the Saskatchewan Health Authority to discuss this matter. Mr. Speaker, when I was aware that she was going to be

meeting with the Deputy Premier, I was pleased to meet with her as well.

Mr. Speaker, a number of changes have been made since that's occurred. I'm told that changes have been made to ensure the staff check on each resident hourly during the night and make proper use of the bed alarm system, Mr. Speaker. There's a number of other, more technical changes, I understand, to do with charting that have also been initiated.

Mr. Speaker, we have very caring, very dedicated staff in our long-term care facilities across the province. I've seen it first-hand in caring for family members, Mr. Speaker. If there's some processes that need to change and things that we can do different, Mr. Speaker, our senior management are happy to meet with Rose and discuss that, and as I said earlier, to answer any questions that she may have.

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

Ms. Chartier: — This government has known for years short staffing is a chronic issue in long-term care, which is why the Sask Party campaigned on a promise to direct \$7.5 million to hands-on staffing in long-term care in their 2016 election campaign. The minister has acknowledged that most of the money promised has not made it there and that this campaign promise needed to be deferred.

If the money was needed during the election campaign to provide better care for our seniors, it is certainly needed now with our aging demographic and increasing numbers of seniors with complex needs, Alzheimer's, and other forms of dementia.

Will the minister recognize that adequate care for our seniors in their final years isn't a promise that should be deferred? And will he commit to keeping that campaign promise of more money on the front lines of long-term care in this coming fiscal year?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member opposite talks about understaffing and under-resource. Mr. Speaker, the facts are just simply this: since we've been given the privilege of forming . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Are you done? Since we've been given the privilege of forming government, Mr. Speaker, we've increased funding for long-term care facilities by 42 per cent. Mr. Speaker, we have increased the total number of full-time equivalent employees by over 11 per cent. Mr. Speaker, the list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, again I refuse to politicize a sad event, Mr. Speaker. My condolences to Rose and her family. I'll ensure that that meeting takes place. Mr. Speaker, I also understand that Rose has filed this issue with the Ombudsman. Mr. Speaker, if the Ombudsman chooses to do a report on that, we'll certainly look very strongly at any recommendations there as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Well there's nowhere to go but up next question period, that's for sure. And that was something, and you've got nowhere to go but up. It's ridiculous. Remember what the business of this place is. Remember your obligation to your

constituents in this province.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

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

Government of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Tribal Council Sign Agreements

Hon. Mr. Merriman: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very proud to rise in the House today to talk about the significant announcement that the Premier and I were being a part of in Saskatoon. Mr. Speaker, we were joined by the Deputy Premier, the Minister of Education, Minister of Health, Minister of Government Relations, Minister of Central Services, and our caucus Chair, the member from Saskatoon University.

On Friday our government signed three agreements with the Saskatoon Tribal Council: a new Children and Family Reconciliation Partnership Agreement, a new Delegation Agreement, and a First Contact Panel Protocol. As our Premier said at the event, "The signing of these agreements represent an important step towards a new working relationship between the province and the Saskatoon Tribal Council. a relationship that's all about improving the lives of indigenous children, youth, and families."

The Children and Families Reconciliation Partnership Agreement is the first of its kind in Saskatchewan. The agreement provides the Saskatoon Tribal Council and the province with principles, actions, and a vision that will guide our work in the days ahead, based on mutual respect, understanding, collaboration, and communication. We enter this new agreement with the spirit of reconciliation and moving beyond past disagreements to focus on what is the most important: our children and families. By working together with the Saskatoon Tribal Council, talking openly, resolving our differences, and truly collaborating, we will achieve our vision of a better and brighter future for indigenous children.

The partnership agreement identifies real tangible short-term and longer term actions and priorities. These include renewing plans for Saskatoon Tribal Council's First Nations children and youth in care to ensure that they support connections to culture, language, identity, and community. We will be exploring options to repurpose Saskatchewan Housing Corporation units to provide emergency and other services for Saskatoon Tribal Council children, youth, and families.

We will collaborate with the Ministry of Justice on services and resources for indigenous parents and children fleeing domestic violence. We will work with the Saskatoon Tribal Council and our health partners to keep indigenous mothers and their newborns together through better parental . . . prevention and support. We also plan to establish joint leaders forums and a child welfare innovation committee to focus on improving child and family services for indigenous children and families.

The delegation agreement we signed re-establishes the Saskatoon Tribal Council Child and Family Services Agency which will provide service on reserve to the Saskatoon Tribal Council member bands. Saskatoon Tribal Council's new agency will join the 17 First Nations that already deliver services to First Nations

communities around our province.

The First Contact Panel will help resolve child and welfare issues through planning and consensus between family members and members of the Saskatoon Tribal Council and Social Services. The goal of the panel is to keep children from coming into care or to reduce the amount of time that a child is in care.

I want to recognize and thank the Saskatoon Tribal Council and Tribal Chief Mark Arcand, who has brought a new vision in leadership to the Saskatoon Tribal Council and who was instrumental in moving these agreements forward. As Tribal Chief Arcand said on Friday, we are beginning a new journey together towards shared responsibility to protect the best interests of our children and families, now and for generations to come.

Not only was tribal chief a signatory on these agreements, but also there were other chiefs from the Saskatoon Tribal Council supporting bands: Chief Greg Scott from Kinistin, Chief Daryl Watson from Mistawasis, Chief Kelly Wolfe from Muskeg, Chief Austin Bear from Muskoday, Chief Tricia Sutherland from One Arrow First Nation, and Chief Darcy Bear from Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

[14:30]

I was honoured and humbled to sign these agreements on behalf of the province alongside these leaders. I would like to recognize the officials at Saskatoon Tribal Council as well as my officials in the Ministry of Social Services and other ministries who worked very hard on these agreements, those who have dedicated to putting themselves in action.

Signing of these agreements are significant. We had an opportunity to do things different and make a real change in the lives of indigenous children, youth, and families. Our government is committed to putting Saskatchewan children, youth, and families first and strengthening our service for First Nation communities. I know that I speak on behalf of all of my colleagues when I say we look forward to working with the Saskatoon Tribal Council towards a better day and a brighter future for indigenous children and families across Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Rancourt: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the minister to provide some remarks regarding the partnership agreement with Saskatoon Tribal Council. First of all I'd like to thank the minister for the advance copy of his notes. It's much appreciated.

This is an important time for this government to work with indigenous groups to make some important changes with child and family services. There is federal legislation that is coming forward to make changes with how child and family services are conducted in the province, and we expect that the government work with all indigenous groups to make these important changes.

But, Mr. Speaker, we have to keep in mind that this government promised a comprehensive review on child and family services

in this province, which has not happened, and the number of children in care continues to rise. This agreement is one step towards addressing the high number of indigenous children in care and the important work in keeping children with family. It is very important to have these agreements which helps to work towards reconciliation. We will continue to work with all indigenous agencies to ensure that important changes to child and family services progress.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this time to thank the Saskatoon Tribal Council for their hard work under the leadership of Tribal Chief Mark Arcand to establish this important agreement. These agreements are significant and need to be respected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I would ask to leave to move several motions of condolence here this afternoon.

The Speaker: — The Premier has asked leave for condolence motions. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

CONDOLENCE MOTIONS

Roy Bailey

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And thank you to the members of this Assembly for an important afternoon here that affords us the opportunity to honour those that have served prior to us.

Mr. Speaker, I would move this:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he had made to his community, to his constituency, and to the province.

Roy Bailey, who passed away on December 13th, 2018 at the age of 89, was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1975 until 1978, representing the constituency of Rosetown-Elrose for the Progressive Conservative Party.

Mr. Bailey was born in Radville, and for most of his life he lived and worked in the southeast and south central Saskatchewan. He received a teaching certificate from the Normal School in Moose Jaw and taught for several years before pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree at the University of Saskatchewan. Mr. Bailey served as a principal, as a director of education, and an executive for the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association.

Mr. Bailey also served as a Member of Parliament from 1997 until 2004 for the constituency of Souris-Moose Mountain for the Reform Party, the Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance, and the Conservative Party of

Canada. His careers in education and politics spanned 55 years.

Mr. Bailey is predeceased by his wife, Helen, and son, Lyall. He is survived and sadly missed by his two daughters, Susan and Janet, and their families.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — Would the House take the motion as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the Premier and add my words of condolence to the family of Mr. Bailey and pay tribute to Mr. Roy Bailey. Roy is predeceased by his wife, Helen, and his son, Lyall. He's survived and missed by his two daughters, Susan and Janet, who I understand are with us today.

And Mr. Bailey of course was born in Radville, and he spent most of his life working in southeast and south central Saskatchewan. He earned his teaching certificate from the Normal School, and a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Regina. He was a member of this Legislative Assembly from '75 to '78 and represented the constituency of Rosetown-Elrose for the Progressive Conservative Party. In addition to serving at a provincial level, he also served as a Member of Parliament.

He's greatly missed by his friends and families. And on behalf of the official opposition, we would like to extend our condolences to them. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to have the opportunity to rise today and to say a few words about Roy Bailey. As we've just heard, Roy was the MLA for the Rosetown-Elrose constituency from 1975 to 1978, the constituency that I have the privilege of representing today. I'm told that Roy and Helen moved from Bengough to Elrose in 1971 when he accepted the position of director of education for the then Eston-Elrose school division.

While I knew of Roy and his political accomplishments, Mr. Speaker, I didn't know him personally. In fact the only recollection I have of actually meeting him was in Weyburn in 2006. It was a short greeting and a short chat, Mr. Speaker, and it was at the nomination meeting for my friend and colleague, the member from Weyburn-Big Muddy.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the member from Weyburn-Big Muddy and Roy were close personal friends, and we all look forward to some personal comments from him shortly.

Mr. Speaker, since I didn't know him personally, I took the opportunity this weekend to call a long-time resident of Elrose who knew Roy very well, Leonard Coutts. Leonard was on the

school board while Roy was working there, Mr. Speaker, and they also shared a passion for politics.

I had a great chat with Leonard and his wife, Helen, this weekend, Mr. Speaker. Leonard talked about all the political discussions that he had with Roy. They've both been very engaged over the years, Mr. Speaker. And with the family present here I just want to say that Leonard and Helen had nothing but great things to say, both about Roy and about the Bailey family, and what high esteem they were held in, in Elrose and still to this day, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, today we offer our condolences to Susan and Janet and all of the Bailey family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's an honour for me to rise this afternoon and say a few words about Roy Bailey. And, Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet, I want to join with the Premier who earlier introduced Roy's family who are here in the Chamber: his daughters, Susan and Janet; his sister Margo; and his nephew Winston. And, Mr. Speaker, Winston's father Ray and Roy were twin brothers and I know that Roy would often refer to Ray as his womb-mate, as a bit of a family joke.

Mr. Speaker, Roy passed away just three days short of his 90th birthday, and as we have heard, he served the people both politically and in the education sector for 55 years. And, Mr. Speaker, although, as the member from Rosetown-Elrose has indicated, he represented that constituency in the Chamber, to me he's best known as my Member of Parliament during his second political tour of duty. But more so, I will always remember Roy for the role that he had in my arrival to this Chamber, which I'll talk about in a few minutes.

Mr. Speaker, as somebody that was interested in politics and growing up in the Weyburn area, I knew who Roy was during his two terms as our Member of Parliament. But I really at the time didn't know him personally. Perhaps I had met him once or twice somewhere along the way. But, Mr. Speaker, in 2006, just a few years after Roy retired, he would play a very big role in my life. Mr. Speaker, in that year, as my friend from Rosetown-Elrose has indicated, when the Weyburn-Big Muddy seat opened and I had spent some time thinking about contesting the nomination and talking to people back home about the prospects of that, a number of people encouraged me to reach out to Roy Bailey.

You see, Mr. Speaker, for people back home, particularly in the Bengough and Minton area, Roy was and continues to be the gold standard when it comes to how to represent your fellow citizens. So, Mr. Speaker, I called Roy. I explained who I was and what I was calling for, and I asked if I could meet him. And I told him at the time that I was working here at the legislature for the official opposition. Roy immediately agreed. He told me that he and Helen had appointments in Regina in the coming days and that we should meet here at the legislature.

Mr. Speaker, at the time I was a research officer in the official opposition caucus and, Mr. Speaker, the problem . . . So Roy wanted to meet here, Mr. Speaker. The problem was I wasn't high enough on the organizational chart to even have my own

office. I had to share an office, and that was going to be a little awkward to meet with Roy to discuss this when I shared an office with somebody else.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I actually snatched the keys . . . And I think my wife was working in her office at the time, so it wasn't that hard to concoct a plan and to get the keys because I think she had them in her desk. And, Mr. Speaker, so we in fact, Roy and I met right beyond those doors in the members' lounge. It was a day when the members weren't here; the legislature wasn't sitting. And so we met back behind those doors in the lounge.

And, Mr. Speaker, we met for about 30 or 40 minutes and, Mr. Speaker, this was an education for me. Roy came in and . . . I remember his handshake that he gave me. And we sat down, and I didn't say a whole lot in those 30 or 40 minutes, Mr. Speaker. Roy gave me a clinic on how to campaign, on how to organize a team but, Mr. Speaker, most importantly on how to treat people.

Mr. Speaker, I don't remember all the specifics of our conversation. As I said, I didn't do much of the talking. But I do remember asking him one specific question, and that was whether or not Roy thought that I was too young to do this. Mr. Speaker, you would have thought that I had offended the man with that question. And I likely did because after all, this was a man who had spent a lifetime in the education field and in his political life encouraging young people. And he certainly encouraged me.

So a couple weeks later, after deciding to contest the nomination, I asked Roy if he would come to Weyburn and move my nomination, be the mover of my nomination, and he agreed. Mr. Speaker, what I remember from that is at McKenna Hall. . . And it's a packed hall and I was kind of off to the side. I'm not sure if I was backstage or just kind of off to the side, and I mean I don't even know what I'm doing, Mr. Speaker, I'm so nervous. I'm like all of 26 years old, and I've got my speech in front of me. And we had 20 minutes in total, and you could divide that 20 minutes up any way you wanted. You could speak for the whole 20 minutes or you could have somebody speak for 19 minutes and you come out and say one minute of something, Mr. Speaker.

And so I'm standing backstage and I remember telling Roy, okay, I think I got 10 minutes or 12 minutes or something. And so I wanted to politely suggest that he not go over eight minutes because then that would kind of cut into my speech, Mr. Speaker, and I probably wasn't very good on the fly changing things. And so I remember standing off to the side getting ready and making sure my pages were all in the right order and making sure there wasn't too much sweat on my brow, Mr. Speaker.

And I remember watching him. I don't think he had a note in front of him, Mr. Speaker. And he had the audience in his hands, Mr. Speaker, and I had visions of him finishing his speech and before we even got to my speech, that the crowd would erupt and they would carry him off on their shoulders, and he would be the nominated candidate. And my career would end before it even began.

[14:45]

But, Mr. Speaker, I will never forget Roy's graciousness, his advice, and ultimately his friendship as over the years we

exchanged some cards and notes. And I had an opportunity to talk to Roy a couple of times.

A couple of quick stories, Mr. Speaker. I had the honour of attending Roy's memorial, and so . . . Unfortunately Roy's grandson Bryn couldn't be here today. A number of his grandchildren spoke at the memorial, but a couple of stories that really stuck out from Bryn's tribute that I've asked Bryn if it was okay if I shared these, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Roy's political career almost began, not in 1975 but in 1956. It was the first time that he got his name on a ballot, but he lost 8 to 7. And according to Bryn's tribute, Roy was not sure . . . Roy was sure that he knew how everybody had voted, except for the one single vote that had caused him to lose. And after some investigation he soon discovered that it was none other than his wife, Helen, who didn't vote for him. She may have not wanted him to start his career, his public life at that particular time in their life.

But anybody who knew them, Mr. Speaker, saw that Helen was his biggest supporter. And, Mr. Speaker, Helen was a wonderful woman in her own right for those of us that were fortunate to know her. Mr. Speaker, Helen and Roy were married for 66 years until her passing in November of 2016. And I know the last few years were getting to be more difficult for both of them as the effects of dementia were starting to take their toll.

And one final story, Mr. Speaker, from Bryn's tribute. Bryn was visiting his grandpa and the nurse had asked if it was true that Roy had led a life in politics, as Roy had been talking about politics for some time. And Bryn told the nurse that yes, he had done a lot in his life and indeed had been a politician. Roy, not knowing Bryn's name by this point or likely not even that this was his grandson, turned and asked Bryn, "What did I do in my life?" And Bryn responded, "Well grandpa, you were a teacher and a farmer and a principal and a superintendent and an MLA and even a Member of Parliament." And as he was listing all these things that Roy had done in his life, Roy was nodding his head in agreement. Perhaps it was jogging some memories but perhaps it wasn't, Mr. Speaker. And then Bryn added, Mr. Speaker, "If I remember right, you did two terms in Ottawa with the NDP," and Roy responded, "Well I certainly wouldn't have done that."

Mr. Speaker, it's an honour, Mr. Speaker, to be able to spend a few moments, probably too few moments to pay tribute to such a wonderful person and somebody who lent a little bit of credibility to me, Mr. Speaker, at a pretty important time in my life, and something that we will never forget.

Mr. Speaker, Roy was a great man and I would be remiss if I didn't also note that he was a great man of faith. And so, Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude with what Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Mr. Speaker, Roy Bailey certainly did. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Eric Arthur Berntson

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I would move:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing . . .

The Speaker: — I'm sorry, Mr. Premier. I didn't pose the question. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he made to his community, to his constituency, and to the province.

Eric Arthur Berntson, who passed away September 23rd, 2018 at the age of 77, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1975 until 1990. He represented the constituency of Souris-Cannington for the Progressive Conservative Party. Mr. Berntson served on Executive Council in several capacities, including as deputy premier, as minister of Agriculture, as minister of Economic Development and Trade, minister of Economic Development and Tourism, and as the provincial secretary. He also served as minister responsible for the Sask Expo '86 Corporation, minister responsible for SaskPower, minister responsible for SaskWater Corporation, and the minister responsible for Agricultural Development Corporation.

Mr. Berntson was born in Oxbow on May 16th, 1941 and he served with the Canadian Navy and Canadian Air Force for eight years. He returned to Saskatchewan and began farming near Carievale. After resigning from the Legislative Assembly, he was appointed to the Senate of Canada and he held that position until he resigned in 2001.

Mr. Berntson is survived and sadly missed by his wife Joan and their children, LeeAnne, Kira, and Eric, as well as their extended family members.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — The House take the motion as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to enter a motion of condolence and pay respect to Mr. Eric Berntson. Eric is survived by his wife and love of his life, Joanie, and his children whom he dearly loved, daughters LeeAnne and Kira and son Eric, and his many grandchildren.

He was born during World War II at Oxbow, Saskatchewan, and before joining the Legislative Assembly, Eric had a distinguished career serving Canada in various capacities. He first enlisted in

the Royal Canadian Air Force and then flew Banshees with the Royal Canadian Navy. He ended his military career flying T-33s with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Eventually this political sphere called Eric and he answered it in 1975, serving as the representative for Souris-Cannington during the Devine era. He had many portfolios such as deputy premier, minister of Agriculture, and minister of Economic Development and Trade.

In addition to his work in the provincial government, in 1990 Eric was named to the Senate by the then prime minister, Brian Mulroney. He is greatly missed by his friends and family and on behalf of the official opposition, we wish to extend our sincere condolences to them. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cannington.

Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Eric Berntson was the previous member of the Legislative Assembly for Souris-Cannington. Souris-Cannington is now known as the Cannington constituency which I have the privilege to represent. Eric was raised in Glen Ewen where his father, Art, was an employee of the CPR [Canadian Pacific Railway] for many years.

I first saw Eric and his family at church in Carnduff in the mid- to late 1960s and I remember people saying that he had just left the Armed Forces and was now farming in the Carievale area. I met him when I volunteered to work on his re-election campaign in 1978, having been one of the seven MLAs elected to represent the PC [Progressive Conservative] Party in the 1975 election. Interesting to note that Roy Bailey, also being remembered here today, was one of those seven, and I offer my condolences to the Bailey family.

Between 1978 and 1982, Eric was instrumental in persuading a number of Liberal MLAs to cross the floor and join the PC Party. In the 1978 election, the results between the Liberals and the Conservatives was a tie. This resulted in the sharing of the title and duties of the official opposition. With the floor crossing, the PC Party became the official opposition.

Eric was also instrumental in convincing Grant Devine to seek the leadership of the PC Party. Grant Devine won and went on to form two consecutive majority governments in the 1980s. Eric served as the deputy premier during those governments, having previously served as the leader of the official opposition in the House during the early 1980s as the PC leader, Grant Devine, was not an elected member.

I wish to extend my deepest condolences to all of Eric's family: Joan, LeeAnne, Kira, and Eric; also to Eric's brothers, and sister Marj who still resides in Oxbow; as well as to Jean and the many extended family members. Eric, may you rest in peace.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I met Eric Berntson during the Devine era. To say that he was gregarious and outgoing would in fact be an understatement. He would go to speaking at constituency meetings. He was capable of generating enormous enthusiasm and excitement and managed to

get the party mobilized at a time when it did not have a lot going for it in the early days. He would go to bring greetings at political conventions and events, and he would be able to bring those meetings together like you wouldn't believe. He would generate excitement. He would generate enthusiasm and create a lot of hard workers and generate a lot of candidates.

He was a politician who was not just a big man with a big heart; he was bigger than life itself. His most-remembered attribute was his reputation for getting stuff done. I use the word "stuff" because I want to make sure that I comply with the rules of the House, Mr. Speaker. He was the go-to guy in his caucus and his cabinet. He knew everyone and everyone knew him and wanted to work with him and for him. He had an amazing ability to attract a large following and to create an enormous team around him. He was popular. He was well liked, and in this building, he was a legend.

He had a remarkable career serving as an MLA. He served as the leader of the opposition before party leader Grant Devine had a seat. After Grant Devine won a seat, Eric stayed on and became the deputy leader. He held numerous cabinet portfolios. He later became a federal senator.

Mr. Speaker, during my time at Legal Aid in the late 1980s and early 1990s, I could always count on him for his support at treasury board and at cabinet. At one point I had to make a special appearance in front of treasury board to ask for Legal Aid vehicles — as the new ones were coming in — to be equipped with air conditioning. They weren't in the past. And my argument was quite simply, judges had air-conditioned CVA [central vehicle agency] cars and prosecutors did. Why shouldn't the Legal Aid lawyers have that as well? We expected them to wear suits and ties and to perform well. He came up to me in the hallway outside and he says, well aren't all Legal Aid lawyers NDP [New Democratic Party] folks? And I said, well they might be but they're still very competent, highly professional . . . [inaudible] . . . And he winked and he laughed and he said, you don't need to appear, we got you. So he was there and he was there for everybody regardless of that.

Mr. Speaker, the last I saw him was a year or so before he passed away. He had Joan phone and he wanted to go for coffee. By that time he had lost his sight and he didn't want anything else other than just to sit, visit, talk, and reminisce about the past. He closed off our conversation by saying, make sure you keep up the fight holding the NDP at bay. Mr. Speaker, I plan to do that in his memory and for a lot of other very good reasons.

Mr. Speaker, my sympathies go to Joanie and to both of their families and wish them well. Thank you.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, it's been less than a year since we said goodbye to our friend Yogi Huyghebaert, the former

member for Wood River. Mr. Speaker, it wasn't until years after I was elected that I actually realized that D.F. and Yogi Huyghebaert were the same person.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to join a number of members on both sides for his service of remembrance, among friends at 15 Wing Moose Jaw, like I said, less than a year ago and the sadness of his passing has not subsided for so many. Mr. Speaker, we miss our good friend, and we continue to mourn. We mourn with his wife Phyllis and the entire family.

Yogi was a few years into his retirement when he passed — a much-deserved retirement, Mr. Speaker, as you know — after nearly 50 years of very, very distinguished service to this province and to our nation of Canada.

When Yogi looked back on his life, I suspect he looked with great pride at the years of 1966 and 1967. You see, in 1966 Yogi married his sweetheart Phyllis — the best move he ever made, I might say. Yogi and Phyllis were married for 52 years and they raised two wonderful sons together, Darcey and Daniel.

[15:00]

And 1967 was the year Yogi was accepted into pilot training with the Royal Canadian Air Force. That's when his unbelievably dazzling career in the Canadian air forces really took off. Yogi served across Canada. He served in Germany and in the United States. He flew for the world famous Snowbirds for many years and that's very much how many of us remember him and his conversations.

The Snowbirds would come to define his career in the forces but, as we said, he had many other assignments. He was a staff officer at the Canadian embassy in Washington. He was a senior officer at the Canadian forces base in Heidelberg, West Germany and the project coordinator between the Canadian military and the US navy for the purchase of the F-18 fighters that still defend our nation of Canada today. By any measure, Yogi had an extraordinary career in the Canadian forces.

I think most people would be satisfied with a career just that extraordinary but, when Yogi retired from the forces in 1994, he was really only getting started. In 1998 he ran for the leadership of this party, the Saskatchewan Party. In the 1999 provincial election Yogi ran for the Saskatchewan Party in Wood River. He lost by a single vote but that election was overturned, and in 2000 Yogi was elected to this Assembly in a by-election. And he'd be re-elected in that same constituency, his constituency of Wood River, with huge majorities again in 2003, again in 2007, and in 2011.

Yogi Huyghebaert was not a man who resided in the mushy middle of the political spectrum, if you will. Everyone knew where you stood with Yogi, and he wasn't that shy about telling you exactly where that was. Maiden speeches in this legislature, they're often friendly. They're often introductory addresses for each of us, and we've all done one. And in Yogi's maiden speech, he compared a report commissioned by the former government to a Scud missile. This was the infamous Stabler report. And Yogi said the Stabler report was intended to, and I quote, "... socialize, centralize, urbanize, and demoralize . . . [That stands for] SCUD." Yogi pointed that out to the Deputy Speaker of the

day.

In government, Yogi served as our minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing and as the province's military liaison, and an exemplary career in each of those portfolios. He was a strong advocate for his constituency and the southwest of our province generally. And we remember Yogi for his sense of humour, but also his sense of hospitality. And he could throw a mean dinner party, and anyone who had the opportunity to experience that would realize just what a fabulous cook Yogi was. He was marginally better than the member from Carrot River.

Upon his passing, a reporter in Moose Jaw for the *Moose Jaw Independent* website wrote that the province had lost "an interesting, brave, and talented man." Our friend and colleague, Yogi Huyghebaert, was all of that but he was so much more. For me and many in this Assembly, he was a mentor. He was a great MLA, and he displayed what a great MLA would do. He was a good representative of the people that he served and he displayed that, Mr. Speaker. But most of all, he was a good friend.

So today we are so grateful for Yogi's service to our province of Saskatchewan and to our nation of Canada. And we are so thankful for the time that we were able to spend with him.

Mr. Speaker, I move:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and express its grateful appreciation of the contribution that he made to his community, to his constituency, and to the province.

D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert, who passed away on August the 2nd, 2018 was a member of this Legislative Assembly from the year 2000 to the year 2016. He represented the constituency of Wood River for the Saskatchewan Party. And Mr. Huyghebaert served as the minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing from 2009 to 2012.

Mr. Huyghebaert was born in Lafleche in 1944 and raised in Fir Mountain. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1961 and received his wings in 1968. He spent his career as a fighter pilot flying CF-104s, CF-5 aircraft, and he served both in Canada and overseas. Later in his military career, he served as a member of the embassy staff in Washington, D.C. to consult with the United States on newly acquired CF-18 aircraft.

Mr. Huyghebaert flew with the famous Snowbirds squadron for two tours. He was selected to fly as a solo pilot for the Snowbirds in 1975 and 1976, and again in 1985 and '86 he was the Snowbirds' team leader. Mr. Huyghebaert was also involved in the air cadet program in Canada and served as the commanding officer of the air cadet camp in Cold Lake, Alberta. He received the Order of Military Merit in 1987. After serving in the Canadian Armed Forces for 33 years, Lieutenant Colonel Huyghebaert retired in 1994.

Mr. Huyghebaert is survived and sadly missed by his wife, Phyllis, and their two sons, Darcey and Daniel, and their families.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — Will the House take the motion as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to enter into this condolence motion and pay tribute to Mr. D.F. Huyghebaert, of course better known to members of this Assembly simply as Yogi.

Yogi is sadly missed by his wife, Phyllis, who is with us today; their sons, Darcey and Daniel, as well as their families.

Yogi was born in Lafleche in 1944 and raised in Fir Mountain. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1961, receiving his wings in 1968. He spent his career as a fighter pilot and served in both Canada and overseas. He also served as a member of the embassy staff in Washington, DC [District of Columbia], as mentioned by the Premier, as a consultant with the United States on newly acquired aircraft. We thank him for his service to our country.

Closer to home, Yogi flew with the iconic Snowbirds for two tours. He was selected to fly as a solo pilot for the Snowbirds in 1975 and again in 1976. In 1985 and '86, Yogi's team leadership skills shone through when he served as the Snowbirds' team leader. He received the Order of Military Merit in 1987. And after serving for 33 years, Lieutenant Colonel Huyghebaert retired in 1994.

But as the Premier mentioned, he was not done with public service. During his military career, Yogi imparted his knowledge and experience to those in air cadets. He served as the commanding officer of the air cadet camp in Cold Lake, Alberta for many years.

Yogi was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan from 2000 to 2016 and he represented the constituency of Wood River. He served as the minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing from 2009 to 2012. He is greatly missed by his friends and family, and on behalf of the official opposition, we wish to extend our condolences to each of them. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is an honour for me to rise here today to give respect to a great man that served not only this province but served this country. Yogi had a great career in the military where he served for more than 33 years, not only here in Canada but also abroad. He was a great ambassador not only to the province of Saskatchewan but to the country of Canada, serving as a Snowbird. And his leadership was shown as he was team leader in 1985 and '86.

Most would say that a 33-year career in the military serving your country would be enough, but that wasn't enough for Yogi and

he decided to serve the constituents of Wood River, where he served as our MLA from 2000 to 2016 where he gained more than 75 per cent of the vote in our constituency.

Mr. Speaker, in retirement I know that him and Phyllis did get to travel abroad, and chances that I did have to meet with Yogi, he talked about those trips and how much he enjoyed them.

I had the pleasure of being with Yogi on many occasions about 2010, '11, and '12 when, in my former role as SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities] president, we attended many 100th anniversaries together in communities in the constituency of Wood River, which Yogi and I were both very proud to be there representing those communities. And we had some great chats about the history of those communities and what went on in them.

It's really an honour for me to be the MLA of Wood River, a constituency that Yogi really helped build to where it is to this day. And I want to take this opportunity if I could to really thank Phyllis for sharing Yogi with us and giving him that opportunity to serve the people of Wood River constituency and this province. And I know, Phyllis, that he really did enjoy the short time that he did have in retirement and travelling, and he talked about it in the back of this room many times with just about everybody in here. So on behalf of all of us here, I want to wish you, Phyllis, and your family all the best. And once again, thank you for sharing Yogi with us. He truly will be missed by the constituents of Wood River, and thank you very much. And rest in peace, Yogi.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and it's indeed my honour to be able to rise today and speak to the memory of Yogi. But where I grew up in Lafleche, it was the Huyghebaerts. I mean that's the way we always said it and so that was . . . There's Huyghebaerts living in Lafleche where I was born and where Yogi was born. But as a kid growing up, we were so proud of Yogi and the Snowbirds and to have somebody that came from our area that flew with the Snowbirds. And we would go to the Moose Jaw air show, and it was just so exciting and something that really built a lot of pride and joy in not only Glentworth but I think in the whole area. And certainly in Lafleche we were really excited to have somebody, one of our own, in there with the Snowbirds. So that was something I think that Yogi will be certainly remembered for forever in the Lafleche area and the Glentworth area.

There's been a lot of politics going on in Wood River, and certainly it was in my home over the years. Roy Nelson was the MLA for a few years, Allen Engel. And they'd all come with a bottle of some sort of spirits to my dad's house and politics would be talked late into the night. And I know that dad and Yogi would have had a few conversations as well I'm sure about politics. Yogi was passionate about what he believed in and made no bones about it. So that was something I think he was certainly noted for as well.

At any rate, on behalf of the official opposition and certainly the community of Lafleche and the area in Wood River, I want to extend our condolences to you and your family, and Yogi will be remembered.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Rural and Remote Health.

Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit: — Mr. Speaker, it's an honour to join in delivering condolences to Phyllis and the family today on behalf of our colleague and friend Lieutenant Colonel D.F. Yogi Huyghebaert.

You know, I first met Yogi at a leader's dinner in Yorkton and it became pretty evident back then, he might have been short in stature but huge in personality and huge in heart. And I remember as a candidate he was always there to offer help and guidance if the need be there. And as a new member, the Premier — Premier Wall at the time — actually developed a bit of a buddy system for new MLAs, and Yogi was given to me as a mentor and as a buddy. And you know, me as a newbie but also as an airplane fanatic and a pilot, it was quite an honour. He was a true hero to me.

[15:15]

You know, his history has been very eloquently spoken about by the Premier and my colleagues in the House so I won't go into some of those intricate details, but just some personal stories that I can remember about Yogi.

Of course as I talked about, we had similar interests, and amazing military adventures that he had. And I know we were talking earlier here in the House, that a lot of his military adventures a lot of people never heard about unless you talked to some of his colleagues after the fact and actually at his memorial out at Moose Jaw air base, I think, a lot more of his stories came out.

But I shared this one that would have been one night sitting late in the House, that him and I, I think, were at the back of the Assembly. And he was telling me about some of his experiences with the CF-104 — widow-maker is what it was called — the Starfighter. And I mean it's called the widow-maker for good reason, that it was an amazing aircraft, Mach 2 interceptor that actually took a lot of young pilots' lives.

But Yogi, we talked a lot about his piloting skills at his memorial and really for the amount of achievements that he did acquire, he was still a very humble fellow. And I remember him telling the story one time about, I think there was an altitude record that was set and I think it was an American pilot. I think Yogi was serving in Germany at the time with the 104 there, and he talked about thinking, I could probably beat that.

So he went to full afterburner, went vertical, straight up. And I can't remember the altitude he hit. It was, like, well over 80,000 feet, which anybody that knows the atmospheric conditions, there's not much oxygen up there. So what happens with a single-engine fighter, it flames out. So it becomes a lawn dart, was how he described his aircraft. So a young pilot full of vim and vinegar, he went about procedures, probably certified and non-certified procedures, got the thing fired back up, and pulled it out of a dive before he became that lawn dart, and went on to, as you've heard, a very illustrious career. But you know, a risk-taker but also a very calculated and skilful pilot, as many stories were told about.

We heard about his experience with the Snowbirds in the

mid-'70s and then again in the mid-'80s, and it would have been probably about that time he was Snowbird Lead that I saw the Snowbirds perform. He would have been the lead at the time, about '86. That just totally enthused me, and I thought, that's what I want to do someday. And it was a short time afterwards that I actually went to go on to get my private pilot licence and then some other subsequent ratings after that.

One thing I remember about Yogi, especially in this place — Premier kind of touched on it a bit — nobody knew the NDP record better than Yogi Huyghebaert. He had the list down pat. And I'm not going to get too political and go into that. But, you know, I remember him talking about his military career and, you know, not really in wartime, but he fought during the Cold War. And he would always tell me this story anyway, you know. I fought communism during the Cold War and well I came to Saskatchewan and . . . Well he fought, let's just say, socialism. He would use maybe stronger terms here.

You know, he was a very wise guy, and many members on this side of the House who probably talk about his reference to dome-itis, and how he'd talk about this building and how it's, you know, an amazing building to work in, but don't get dome-itis. Because what happens in here gets reported by the media, gets brought up by the opposition, isn't necessarily what the people back home are worried about. So although you have to be very attentive to what's going on in here, what the issues are, the work you have in here and respectful of the media, don't get dome-itis. You get back home and you talk to your constituents and bring their concerns, what's really important to them, back here. And that was some wisdom that I think a lot of us have held on to for many, many years.

I believe both sides of the House, and the member from Nutana I think very eloquently stated how much respect he had from the opposition side as well as the Sask Party side, Mr. Speaker.

You know, for as proud as Yogi was of his careers — and I say that with an "s," careers, obviously — it was obvious he was most proud of his family; his wife, Phyllis. And of course, as the member for Wood River talked about, his travel that he was able to do with Phyllis the last couple of years of his life before passing was something that was very important and very enjoyed by him.

So you know, Mr. Speaker, as I referred to, Yogi was a friend and a colleague to many here. But he was — to me anyway, and I know to a few members around this floor — he was a true hero. And Phyllis, to you and the family, our condolences. God bless.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure and my honour as a member of the opposition to weigh in and say some remarks about Yogi Huyghebaert. Phyllis, I'd like to extend my condolences.

As we all know in this place here, Yogi wasn't a huge fan of those of us on this side of the House. And he probably is . . . I'm not sure how he feels about me getting up and speaking right now. But I had the privilege and the pleasure — I didn't know it was going to be a privilege and a pleasure — to travel with Yogi a

few years ago on a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association trip to Germany actually. So we were quite the motley crew. It was Yogi, myself, and Darryl Hickie.

And I wasn't quite sure how that was going to go, to be perfectly honest. I hadn't travelled for a very long time. And so I wasn't sure if I had any expectations of how it would go. And Yogi and I obviously come from very different world views and have very different values. But right out of the gate, travelling and getting on . . . Like from Toronto to Germany, we had many, many legs along that trip to get to where we needed to be, and he was kind and generous. We had the opportunity to sit down for many meals before our program started, and we had some really good conversations.

Again just to be clear, there was zero point of intersection on our values, but we had really good conversations. And I felt like we had an opportunity to maybe have a glimpse as to what each of our perspectives were. We didn't change each other's mind, but I think I opened his heart a wee, wee, wee bit to New Democrats anyway. There is photographic proof actually, Mr. Speaker. There is photographic proof.

Yogi was a remarkable storyteller and could tell a mean joke. He was a lot of fun to be around and a huge heart, kind. Again often not showing it to this side of the House in the legislature, but I sure appreciated it and felt it when we were travelling. He was a good man. And I'm so very sorry for your loss, Phyllis.

I'm recalling a story, and I can't remember what wild animal may have been in your house. He had told a story about a bear?

An Hon. Member: — A badger.

Ms. Chartier: — A badger. A badger. So my memory isn't that great, but he regaled us with a tale of the badger in your house.

So again, Phyllis, I'm so very sorry for your loss. Yogi, your husband, was a fine man and he will be missed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Carrot River Valley.

Mr. Bradshaw: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, how many people can say that they've cooked with a true Canadian hero? They fished with a true Canadian hero? They flew with a true Canadian hero, and they sat back and told all sorts of stories with a true Canadian hero?

I was fortunate to be great friends with Yogi. You know, I first met Yogi actually before I was elected, and we became instant friends, probably because I was an ag pilot. Yogi was a fighter pilot. And you have to realize that ag pilots and fighter pilots are very similar. They're a little different, so to speak. Let's face it. There's only one person in the cockpit, and pilots have a tendency to be egotistical — well, some of them do — because, you see, if you make a mistake, there's nobody there to back you up, and consequently the outcome generally isn't good. So needless to say, pilots like that always think they're right. And so Yogi and I for some reason just, we hit it off absolutely instantly.

You know, when you look at Yogi's record of what he did in the Cold War, as was mentioned from the member from Yorkton,

flying the 104, well-known as the widow-maker, and then also being captain of the Snowbirds. You know, he was a true Canadian hero. Got the highest award to be given to the military in Canada, the Order of Military Merit. The thing about Yogi though is he . . . I don't know how you would say it. He never . . . He was so kind of calm and he just, he never took any of this to heart. He didn't seem to think that he was a true Canadian hero even though he was.

I could tell all sorts of stories about Yogi. We used to sit together and tell lies. We used to cook together all the time. And Yogi and I always used to joke when we were cooking. We always used just a hint of garlic, which . . . We were both the same way; we loved our garlic. But you know, when we went fishing up north, it sure kept the mosquitos away. And of course you go see Yogi, and we get together and he'd say, "Well maybe we should have a drink." But he'd always say, you know, "Let's only have two fingers." So we did quite well at that.

A little bit of a story. We were up at our cabin up at Namew. Yogi and I used to go fishing up at Namew all the time. We were up at our cabin, and anyway it got to be afternoon. The wind was up so we decided we weren't going to go out fishing and Yogi said, "Well, you know," he said, "I brought up a 40 of sambuca." He said, "Maybe we should just have a little bit of a drink here before we go out fishing or, you know, till the wind goes down." Well apparently the wind never went down because we got up the next morning and that 40 was empty.

But he was just such a pleasant person to be around. And the things that he did . . . When Yogi decided to do something, he really took it to heart, whether it was going on his cruises . . . I know one time I asked him . . . He was going down to the Antarctic and I said, "Why would you want to go to the Antarctic?" He said, "Because I haven't been there before." That was just the way Yogi was. He'd been basically all over the world. Just an amazing person to talk to.

When he was minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, he just did an excellent job. And he straightened PDAP [Provincial Disaster Assistance Program] right out. He did a lot of work on that, and it was at a very good time too because we were having a lot of flooding issues at that time. He did a fantastic job.

Phyllis, of course, would show up every now and then to some of our meals. We used to cook together, sometimes at his place, sometimes at my place. And it was always kind of funny because when I went to his place, he'd pick me up at my condo. I'd go over to his place and then I'd catch a taxi back. And we did it both ways because both of us knew, once we got into cooking and doing other things, neither one of us was going to be fit to drive home on the average . . .

And Phyllis has just been a great person, and you know, Darcey and Dan. I really didn't get to know Darcey very well at all, but Dan, I certainly got to meet quite a few times. And you know, it was a great family.

I could talk for hours and tell stories that Yogi and I talked about because, like I said, he was just such a fun person to be around. And as has been said, he knew all these little intricacies he would bring up about the opposition. And I couldn't even think to

remember all the things that he did and all the words he would pick. He would go to the dictionary and find words that the Speaker wouldn't know so he could say stuff in the House. And you know, eventually the Speaker would pick it up. But he was just a wonderful, wonderful character, a great comrade and friend.

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

Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to also rise to say a few words of tribute to Yogi.

Yogi's career with the RCAF [Royal Canadian Air Force] was one of great distinction, a career that was certainly impressive to someone like me, a former private pilot and a guy who's just interested in airplanes and flying, like the member from Yorkton and the member from Carrot River. And as well, I'm old enough to remember well the daily tensions of the Cold War.

[15:30]

And so more than once I tried to get Yogi to tell me more about flying CF-5s and CF-104 Starfighters over Europe for NATO [North Atlantic Treaty Organization] in what could be called some of the hottest parts of the Cold War. And he would always give me an answer to my questions but really didn't tell me very much about any of his personal deeds, but would instead divert the conversation, usually to something like describing the idiosyncrasies of the airplanes I asked about and things like that. But he never really . . . He always avoided talking about the things that he did and the situations that he was involved in.

Wasn't till a few years ago, at Yogi's retirement dinner in his constituency, that I got to learn a little more. The dinner was also attended by a couple of Yogi's Air Force buddies. After dinner I got into a casual conversation with one of them, and we were mostly talking about what a good guy Yogi was. And he kind of stopped the conversation after a while and said to me that he didn't think any of us knew how good Yogi was. And he described how Yogi would be selected to participate in the most sensitive and difficult missions, over not only the best Canadian pilots but also the best of the international pilots involved in the NATO mission in Europe. And you know, Yogi was by anybody's standards a hero.

But I say all of this mostly to point out that Yogi was always modest and never boastful. Yogi flew two tours with the Snowbirds, the first being 1975-76 season when he was also the Snowbirds' solo pilot, and in the 1985-86 season when he also, when he served as the Snowbirds' team leader. Yogi received the Order of Military Merit in 1987. And again when asked about it, Yogi just wanted to talk about the fun he had flying with the Snowbirds. Yogi was also deeply involved with air cadets program and was revered by the young cadets.

Sometimes great people are recognized more for their accomplishments away from home than they are at home, or they tend to just be known for being themselves. And with a big personality like Yogi's, that's something in itself. But in Yogi's case, I know that one of his flight suits hangs in the military aviation museum in Minot, North Dakota, in a fitting tribute to a Cold War flying hero and to his accomplishments as a high-speed close-formation pilot with the Canadian Snowbirds, who are

respected worldwide and certainly in the USA [United States of America].

Back in the opposition days, a small group of us used to hang out together quite a bit. And Yogi was part of that group, and it gave me a chance to know Yogi a little better. And I was always proud to be included in that little group and always glad that Yogi was as well. Yogi was a great cook. And I think of him more as a chef really than a cook because he would invite as many friends as he could fit into his little apartment over for dinner occasionally and prepare elaborate dishes from various parts of the world that he had visited. Those meals were always amazing.

A lot of stories were told at those get-togethers, some true and some just fun. But everybody had a great meal, lots of laughs. And those evenings, I believe, helped to knit us together as an effective and cohesive political force. And I will always remember the good times and camaraderie that we shared there. Yogi loved to laugh. Later on the member from Carrot River would join with Yogi in preparing some of those dinners, and that was almost as good.

Yogi's passion was for travelling to exotic parts of the world with Phyllis. And these extensive trips not only gave Yogi a wealth of interesting stories and experiences but also recipe ideas for those great get-togethers over the fabulous dinners that we all looked forward to so much at his place. Yogi was a worldly man, comfortable in many cultures.

I could go on much longer reminiscing about Yogi and the good times, but others will want to speak, so I will wind this down by saying that Yogi was a man of many accomplishments, firmly held views, strong principles, honesty, integrity, courage, and honour. An air force pilot, Snowbird, air cadet commanding officer, military aircraft consultant, recipient of the Military Order of Merit, member of the Legislative Assembly, and a good, good . . . and in fact great cabinet minister who loved his family very dearly. And I extend my most heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to Phyllis, their boys Darcey and Daniel and their families.

Rest in peace, my friend.

The Speaker: — Pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

Colin Maxwell

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, Colin Maxwell and Cherry met and married in Scotland and later immigrated to southern Saskatchewan, where they began teaching. Their three children, two daughters and a son — Ashley, Kirstin, and Brigham — were born in this nation of Canada. Mr. Speaker, they had the opportunity to teach in Melville and Preeceville and lecture at the University of Regina for a time.

And then Colin and Cherry moved to Spiritwood as the principal of the Spiritwood High School. It was while he was in Spiritwood that he got the urge to run for politics, Mr. Speaker, and he ran for mayor despite never having served any term on the town

council. Being at the head of council and a very close few friends that were quite politically minded and prodding him along, that political urge grew, Mr. Speaker, and he decided to enter provincial politics.

So as folklore goes in the community, by a friend of Colin's, Dave Hyndman, Colin was actually a self-professed Liberal, as were many of his close friends. But he ran as a member of the Progressive Conservatives, but his unofficial slogan was, "you should hug a Liberal."

Colin very much enjoyed his time in politics, his time in cabinet as he served as the minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, but he particularly enjoyed the portfolio of minister of Parks and Renewable Resources, and he often referred to himself as the minister of birds and fishes. Mr. Speaker, it was under this time that Colin had the opportunity to designate 1.7 million acres of Crown land under *The Critical Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*, something near and dear to his heart.

He was an excellent public speaker and he was a very popular public speaker. He was a great storyteller and he had a terrific sense of humour. Any speech that he gave, you could count on a number of things. One, it would be entertaining. Two, it probably will be informative. People enjoyed listening to him and it's probably in part because of his Scottish accent, but also because of the passion to the causes in which he spoke. And I remember a story of, in those days, Mr. Speaker, there was a few government members that sat on the other side, Mr. Speaker, and he sat nearest to the opposition where he would lean over and, in that Scottish accent, consistently offer advice to the Leader of the Opposition, Allan Blakeney, of the day.

Mr. Speaker, Colin was a dedicated family man. He cherished his family as well as his close friends in communities that he had the opportunity to live, and he was very personable and he would fit into any crowd. Those close to him referred to him as the wee Max, in part because there was something that felt very Scottish about that expression, but also in part because he just simply wasn't that tall. His height wasn't an issue for him, and as one of his favourite expressions as well was, and I quote, "It matters not the size of the dog in the fight, but rather the size of the fight in the dog."

Well, Mr. Speaker, he was a fighter. He took on controversy; he never backed away from a tough conversation. He was a Philadelphia Flyers fan, even going so far as — and this is a testament to him taking on controversy — even going so far as to purchasing a bright orange truck, which most certainly would not occur here today.

Mr. Speaker, although he loved the environment, Colin was not much of a hunter or a fisherman, although he did go goose hunting from time to time. But he was a true champion for the outdoors. He was a true champion, in particular, for the conservation and respect of our natural resource, our great outdoors here. And it was entirely appropriate that, after politics, Colin Maxwell moved to Ottawa to be the director of the Canadian Wildlife Federation. This was a natural fit for Colin Maxwell, Mr. Speaker. However for as long as he was in Ottawa, his heart most certainly was still in this province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask to move:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and express its grateful appreciation of the contribution that he made to his community, to his constituency, and to the province.

Colin Maxwell was a Member of the Legislative Assembly from 1982 until 1990, representing the constituency of Turtleford for the Progressive Conservative Party. Mr. Maxwell served on Executive Council in several capacities, including as minister of Advanced Education and Manpower; minister of Parks and Renewable Resources; minister of Culture and Recreation; minister of Parks, Recreation and Culture; and minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Recreation.

Born in Scotland, Mr. Maxwell received his graduate diploma in education from Jordanhill College of Education in Glasgow in 1966. He married his wife, Cherry, that same year and they moved to Canada.

He taught in communities of Smeaton, Preeceville, Melville, and served as the principal for the Spiritwood High School. While teaching he continued to further his education. He received his Bachelor of Education degree in 1975, and later he became a lecturer at the University of Regina.

He served as the mayor of Spiritwood for two terms prior to being elected to the Legislative Assembly. After his political career he accepted a position as the executive vice-president of the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Ottawa.

Mr. Maxwell is survived and sadly missed by his wife, Cherry, and three children: Ashley, Kirstin, and Brigham, and their families.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — Will the House take the motion as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my honour to enter into this condolence motion and pay tribute and express gratitude with respect to Mr. Colin Maxwell. Colin is survived by his wife, Cherry, and their children: Ashley, Kirstin, and Brigham, and their families.

Colin came to us from Scotland in 1966 after receiving his diploma in education and marrying his wife all that same year. He taught in Smeaton, Preeceville, Melville, and served as the principal of Spiritwood High School. While he taught, as many in education are wont to do, he continued to further his own education. He received his Bachelor of Education degree in 1975 and later went on to become a lecturer at the University of Regina.

Prior to being elected to the Legislative Assembly, Colin served as the mayor of Spiritwood for two terms. And after his political career, he took the job as the executive vice-president of the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Ottawa.

While Colin was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1982 to 1990, he represented the constituency of Turtleford for the Progressive Conservative Party and he held many cabinet positions during that time, including the minister of Advanced Education and Manpower; minister of Parks and Renewable Resources, during which time as the Premier mentioned, 1.75 million acres of Crown land was designated under *The Critical Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*. He also served as the minister of Culture and Recreation; the minister of Parks, Recreation and Culture; and the minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Recreation.

Mr. Speaker, he is greatly missed by his friends and family, and on behalf of the official opposition, we wish to extend our sincere condolences to each of them. Thank you.

[15:45]

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

Mr. Doke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take a few moments to talk about Colin Maxwell.

Colin was the MLA for Turtleford from 1982 to 1990. Although he was born and completed his diploma of education in Scotland, Colin had a strong sense of community and love for Saskatchewan. He taught in communities of Smeaton, Preeceville, Melville, Spiritwood, and later as a lecturer at the University of Regina. He served as mayor of Spiritwood and later became the MLA for Turtleford. He served in the Saskatchewan cabinet as minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, as minister of Culture and Recreation, and as minister of Parks and Renewable Resources.

Mr. Speaker, while in cabinet, Colin's love for wildlife was clear. Some of his most notable accomplishments was the designation of 1.7 million acres of Crown land under *The Critical Wildlife Habitat Protection Act*. He doubled the funding of the wildlife component for the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund. He toughened the penalties for poaching and trafficking violations under *The Wildlife Act*; raised public awareness through innovative programs such as the Wildlife Art Contest; Project Wild for the education of young people; the video production *Waterfowl for Tomorrow*, which won the Ernest Thompson Seton Award for the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. And most significant was his role in having Saskatchewan participate in the North American waterfowl management plan.

Mr. Speaker, after listening to his accomplishments, it's not surprising that after his political career he accepted a position as the executive vice-president of the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Ottawa. I would like to take a moment to recognize his wife, Cherry, and three children: Ashley, Kirstin, and Brigham, and their families. Colin Maxwell is and will be missed. Thank you.

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

motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Premier.

Kevin Phillips

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems like just yesterday that we heard the tragic news in this Assembly, in this province, and most certainly in the community of Melfort. We heard of the shocking and sudden passing of our friend and then the MLA for the Melfort constituency, Kevin Phillips.

And I think it's fair to say that often and today our thoughts are most certainly with Kevin's wife, April, who was the rock in his life. And I can honestly say that April meant the world to Kevin, as we all know. April and the children and the grandchildren, they were everything to Kevin, and Kevin Phillips above everything was a family man.

Kevin was well liked. He was respected by members on both sides of this Assembly. I recall the member for Regina Douglas Park actually, the member for Regina Lakeview, and the member for Saskatoon Centre, all of you were gracious enough to attend Kevin's funeral in Melfort, joining many from this side of the House. And for that, I know his family and all of us are deeply thankful. Kevin was highly regarded.

Kevin, as we know, was a member of the class of 2011, Mr. Speaker, the year we were elected. Kevin was re-elected in 2016. In both elections Kevin won with more than 70 per cent of the popular vote. But Kevin was also very highly regarded as a community person in the community of Melfort and the surrounding area. Kevin came to this legislature with a long and distinguished record of public service in Melfort. He was the mayor of Melfort from 2006 until 2011. He was a board member for the Melfort School Division for nine years, including three years he served as the Chair of the board.

He was very active in the community. He was active in the Kinsmen Association. Kevin was also successful in business. He was a partner in the *Melfort Journal* for 25 years, an industry that he was very proud of. He was a partner and an investor in numerous other businesses in the community.

And I think it's fair to say that Kevin had a broad sense, a broad experience, and an abiding love for, not just that community of Melfort but the entire province of Saskatchewan. As an MLA for that community, he was a tireless and determined advocate for the entire constituency. And if you had time to spend with him in his constituency, you know exactly what that meant.

Mr. Speaker, there was a hole for myself personally and, I know, many members, as we attended the SUMA [Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association] and SARM conferences this past year. As you look around, you don't see that friendly, tall fellow that's always in the room visiting with municipalities and meeting with municipalities on items of importance to them. He was truly doing his work as legislative secretary to the minister of Government Relations. He was a fixture at those conventions. He was a fixture at the regional conventions. And they were different this year without his presence.

Kevin lobbied hard in his community and in this caucus and in this government for the construction of a domestic violence shelter in Melfort, maybe one of the initiatives that he's best known for — the first new shelter of its kind to be built in this province for over 30 years. And we all know Kevin walked many, many miles in those red high heels. The Deputy Premier walked step in step with him to raise awareness for domestic violence. Kevin didn't walk very well in those high heels. It wasn't actually a pretty sight at all, to be honest with you. That didn't stop him. He put them on each and every year and he walked, Mr. Speaker.

We also in this Assembly remember our friend Kevin for his personality, for his wit, for his warmth, for his dry humour, or for his, and I quote the member from Saskatoon Nutana, "his lazy drawl." But, Mr. Speaker, Kevin Phillips was just a good guy. He was a friend.

You were his seatmate, Mr. Speaker, and I think you and him had joked about the area of the Assembly that you sat in at that point in time was called the hinterland, back over here. Mr. Speaker, I remember your comments on his passing. When you were elected in 2011, you were colleagues for one day but "we were most certainly friends after that." Mr. Speaker, you recalled that Kevin was upbeat and hopeful and he believed in people — he most certainly did — and that sometimes he could be childlike. He most certainly could be, but you said, the world had not jaded our friend Kevin Phillips.

The Minister of Government Relations remembered how Kevin encouraged him after he first arrived in this Assembly. You know, there was a lot of "attaboys" after his introductions, after his speeches. There was "good job" and "attaboy" and "keep it up," and that was most certainly the Kevin that we knew.

The member from Moose Jaw North recalled how much fun Kevin was, planning parties for his fellow Kinsmen back home. Specifically he planned a beach party in the middle of February, complete with real sand that he had trucked in for the occasion. The Minister of Crown Investments remembers having long chats with Kevin as they were driving home from the legislature, in separate cars, of course, and they were on hands-free while they chatted, most certainly. And they were quite likely both driving Chrysler products.

The Minister of Crown Investments will offer some comments, but he recalled that Kevin Phillips was someone who believed that to make a difference in your community and in this province, you had to get involved. You had to get off the sidelines. Well, Mr. Speaker, many years ago Kevin Phillips, he made that choice and he got off the sidelines. He got involved first at the municipal level, then provincially, serving in this Assembly with many of us.

He also got off the sidelines, Mr. Speaker, I recall, during a soccer game with the Special Olympics folks. It was an intense game, Mr. Speaker, so intense he actually tore his Achilles in that game and he got to wheel around this Assembly for a number of months. And I remember specifically . . . and I can't remember both of the Riders that were there, but it was the member from Saskatoon Eastview and, I believe, another Rider helping him off the field with his foot dangling behind him. And it was Luc Mullinder, I believe, that came up and said, can I give you a

hand? And he very quickly ditched the member from Saskatoon Eastview, grabbed the Rider, and he had a Rider under each arm, a big grin on his face, and a foot dangling behind him, dragging on the turf. And, Mr. Speaker, he took that all in stride. And he was happy to participate, and it was a happy day.

This province is so much better today because of the decision that Kevin made to get off the sidelines. Saskatchewan is stronger for Kevin's involvement, for his engagement, and for his commitment. Mr. Speaker, we are so grateful for the many contributions of our friend Kevin Phillips. We're thankful for the time that we had to spend with him. We're thankful for his friendship and we miss him dearly today.

Mr. Speaker, I would move:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution that he made to his community, to his constituency, and to the province.

Kevin Phillips, who passed away on November 13, 2017 at the age of 63, was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 2011 until his passing. He represented the constituency of Melfort for the Saskatchewan Party.

Mr. Phillips was born on May 29, 1954 and he spent his early years growing up in Kinistino. In 1972 he moved to Melfort and he joined the family business, Phillips Publishing which was a partner with the *Melfort Journal* for more than 25 years. In 2001 he joined Sunshine Chrysler, later Riverside Sales, as a partner. He sat on the board of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association. He sat as a board member and chaired the Melfort school division, and he served as president of the Kinsmen Club. He also served as the mayor of Melfort from 2006 until 2011.

Mr. Phillips is survived and sadly missed by his wife, April, and their four children: Kelli, Brenden, Brandi, and Riley, and their families.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

The Speaker: — Will the House take the motion as read?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to enter this condolence motion and pay tribute and thanks with respect to Mr. Kevin Phillips. Kevin was someone we all knew in this House, and someone who's sorely missed. His sudden passing in 2017 struck us all.

Thinking of Kevin's history, Kevin's legacy, he of course spent his early years growing up in Kinistino. And in 1972 he moved to Melfort where he joined the family business, Phillips Publishing. The company was a partner with the *Melfort Journal* for more than 25 years. In 2001 he went from journalism into

auto sales joining Sunshine Chrysler as a partner.

In his community he was very active and he sat on the board of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association, was a board member and later Chair of the Melfort school division, and served as president of the Kinsmen Club.

And he was of course very well known for his work around domestic violence, his work to raise funds and establish a domestic violence shelter in Melfort. And as the Premier pointed out, we all have a mental image of Kevin in the red pumps and his leadership with the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes fundraising events.

Before joining provincial politics, Kevin served as the mayor of Melfort from 2006 to 2011, and he was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 2011 until 2017. On this side of the House we all recognized in Kevin, a friendly, easygoing person who, despite being of a different party, didn't approach conversations in a partisan way, was always very open and encouraging. And he was a kind man, and we were all deeply saddened and moved by his passing.

And I remember the day in which we all came together to pay tribute to him as a day which was very sad, but also quite beautiful — one of the moments where we saw each other all as people and not as opponents. And as the Speaker knows, this place can get a bit contentious at times. And it was, I think, a moment for us to come together and recognize our shared humanity.

Kevin is of course greatly missed by friends and by his family, in particular his wife April and their four children — Kelli, Brenden, Brandi, and Riley — and their families. On behalf of the official opposition, I'd like to extend my condolences to them and to all of his friends. Thank you.

[16:00]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Goudy: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a privilege for me to be able to stand and speak to the condolence motion for our friend Kevin. Before I do, I would like to speak for April, to yourself, and to any of the members here, and the Premier as well. I was able to watch how you guys supported April through that time of loss.

And I remember when our Premier was in our community. He took in a Mustangs game and got to meet the namesake, Moe the Mustang. And during that time he said, you know, let's go stop in and see April. And it was nice to see the kind of support that's been reciprocated back and forth from her to you, and from you to her, and from the whole family. And I want to pass on to you all the appreciation that she has for all of you. And you know, it's been good to watch, and not just on our side of the House, but on the other side as well.

And you know, you can stand in the shadow of some great men. And some men's shadows are dark and, you know, they loom over you as if you'll never live up. But some men's shadows are bright, and Kevin had a bright shadow. And though he was a great man and he stood tall and he did great things, he never made

you feel insignificant. He always made you feel challenged. And you know, following in his footsteps is tough because, my goodness, just even yesterday . . . Well today actually, I was talking to my CA [constituency assistant] — if she only could have Kevin back, I'm sure — but you know, we had a satellite office. And I'd tell them, you know, Kevin, everywhere I go they speak so highly of the guy. Like when you were in the room with Kevin, you had his ear and you thought that you were the most important person in the world. And that was Kevin. And I would come back to the office and I'd tell Peggy, I'd say, oh my goodness. It's just, you know, I always feel like insignificant . . . [inaudible] . . . Like you go to Englefeld or LeRoy or Naicam to the seniors home, and everywhere loves Kevin.

But you know, in Kevin's life it wasn't a dark shadow that he had; it was a bright one that just pushed you to become great like he was. And you know, there's a verse that David, who slayed Goliath, it says, you know, your gentleness has made me great. And in Kevin's case, his gentleness has made those people who are around him great.

And you know, we lost a great man when we lost Kevin. I stood in the SUMA meeting there and the SARM group and, you know, I stood in front of a group in my hometown, in our Kerry Vickar Centre and they said, what have you got to say? And you know, the only thoughts that were in my mouth that day was, you know, we have a great deficiency here. We've lost a man who had so much . . . He knew so much about, you know, civic governance. He was my mayor. He was my MLA. He was my friend. He was my school Chair of the Board of Trustees. He was a business owner and taxpayer. He was a mentor. You know, before he passed away we were up Thursday night phoning around for the premier's race. You know, every meeting we were at he'd take me and he'd teach me simple, funny things. Like he said, Todd, I know you're not a drinker, but he said, just get a Coke, something, just fill it up halfway. You just walk around. It makes people uncomfortable if you don't . . . He had such . . . He was always so practical, the guy, you know? He'd look after you.

And you know, his gentleness could make anybody great. And you know, whether you were a business owner, he knew you well. I went into Dan Beuker, he owns FPS [Failure Prevention Services] . . . I'd walk in there, first meeting with Dan, and I look on their stairway going up. It's just bare, white walls but it's got a Kevin Phillips . . . elect Kevin Phillips sign. And he says, yes, if you win and you do well, maybe one day we'll put your name up on the wall too.

Kevin is a special guy. He'd go into the seniors home, you know . . . Todd, you better act like Kevin did, and this is what Kevin did . . . and you know, if you just follow in some people's footsteps, you do well. And so when it came to being an MLA to following after him it was . . . it's easy. You know, some of the things that you mention, Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, you know, different ones came out and walked.

But as a family man Kevin is missed greatly. I texted his son-in-law and said, you know, do you want to shoot me some thoughts about Kevin? And Zach's a great guy and, you know, he says the same things that you'd always expect: no matter who you are, whether you're the grandchild or, you know, the fellow that he's never met before on the street, Kevin always had time for everyone.

You know, for his grandchildren, if you called Kevin papa, he was a happy guy. I don't know what he was like here because I never sat with him here at all, but back in Melfort he was a happy person. And whether it was, you know, just fooling around on the iPad with his grandkids or taking them out in a wheelbarrow in the backyard, Kevin had fun with his kids, and you know, the kind of guy that would phone his wife at 9 o'clock every night just to check in with her. He's the kind of guy that I want to grow up to be like.

So on the day that Kevin passed, I was in Regina here for a school board meeting. And for some reason I knew in my heart I was going to meet the Education minister the next morning in my hotel. I know I was going to . . . But I got a phone call at 5 o'clock in the morning and that phone call was the most . . . it was just a tragic call. A friend of Kevin's phoned to tell me that Kevin had passed away.

And I had to go downstairs, and somehow I knew I was going to run into our Education minister. And funny enough, I sat down in a chair and I waited for a few minutes. And who walks into the lobby? And I went over to him and said, did you hear what happened? And he said, no, what happened? And I said, Kevin Phillips passed away. And it was like he got shot in the guts, and his wind was taken and he couldn't speak. And that in itself speaks for my community. Losing Kevin Phillips was like you got shot in the stomach and your wind was taken and you didn't know what to say, and you didn't know how to move on.

But you know, we can walk in the light of his shadow. And you know, you can buy two whoppers for \$7. I don't know if everybody knows that but . . . So on my way home from here to Melfort, I stop on Kevin's behalf and I oftentimes buy two whoppers: one for me and one for the hitchhiker I might pick up on the way. Because Kevin was the kind of guy that, you know, whether you were at the back alley and he'd meet you there — for whatever reason, he'd take a break every once in a while, for the back alley — or you know, whether he was just walking down the street meeting his old friends with his Kinsmen or whoever it might have been, Kevin loved people. He had time for everybody.

So you know, April's not able to be here today. She'd love to be. She's helping me out actually. She's one of the CAs that pitches in to help, so I'm so excited that she's able to go out and meet the people and hear the stories about Kevin. Because as Peggy said, "Todd, honestly, everywhere I go, people love Kevin. Like he always had time for everybody." So on her behalf, am I able to ask, you know, for everybody who misses Kevin, can we have a big "hear, hear!" for Kevin.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Goudy: — Thank you very much.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a member of the class of '11, I know many of us will remember that day. There was a large number of new MLAs and I was the only one from the official opposition, so I remember us having our training session and I chose to sit down with the other new MLAs because we wouldn't want the legislative staff to have to do two sessions,

and so away I went.

And Kevin Phillips was one of the very first people that came up to me and said hello, how are you, and what's your name, and we got chatting. And right from that moment, I knew he was, as the member from Melfort described him, a very kind, welcoming, generous human being.

Shortly after that, it was I think in January of 2012, some of us — the member from Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview, other members of the class of 2011 — joined some other government members when we went to Ottawa for a review of the lobbying registry. And at that time, the federal lobbyist Act was under review and there was a considerable amount of work that was being done federally and it was very instructive I think for all of us to be able to sit down and take in what was happening there.

And throughout that week we were there — we were there a few days, I guess, two or three days — Kevin just continued to . . . I did call it a lazy drawl, but he's kind of like the uncle that you always wanted, you know. And he would kindly tell a story and he just had that sort of cadence that sort of made you feel safe and comfortable. And it really helped me, as the lone opposition member I think to sort of have that experience with some of the government members and realize that we are all in this for the same reason, because we care about our community and we care about our province and we just want to do better. So Kevin was a real example of that, Mr. Speaker.

Two things that I noticed that would make Kevin light up, and one was any mention of the community of Melfort. He was so proud of Melfort and his community. And having been mayor, as he was before he got elected, he really, really beamed with pride whenever Melfort was brought up, and spoke of it often in his comments, Mr. Speaker.

And the second piece I think that made him light up was not a cellphone going off but it was his wife, April. And I mean he spoke of her in the House, and when you met them in the rotunda and in the hallway, that was the light of his life. And it was very clear how important and how close they were as a couple. So I really enjoyed that.

The one thing I miss the most from Kevin — and being someone who does heckle from time to time in this Assembly — was his heckles. Because it was a full-body heckle, Mr. Speaker. The arms would be flying and he'd be, you know, just waving his fist at us. And I could just see him across the way, you know, getting excited about the injustice of the opposition and how dare we. And it was well meant and I think still appreciated. And I remember looking over and seeing him there and, you know, he let us have it and he was of no uncertain terms.

So I think as a politician, he was a fine politician, Mr. Speaker, but he was a fine man and he's definitely missed in this Assembly. So thank you for allowing me to rise and make some comments today. And to his wife and family, our sincere condolences.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Rural and Remote Health.

Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure and honour to rise and share a few comments about our friend and colleague, gone too soon, Kevin Phillips. I only knew Kevin probably casually before he came to this Assembly. I knew him as, of course we've heard today, mayor and representative of the town of Melfort, and a very respected member of that community he was. We heard at length some of the involvement he's had in the community and in business, so I won't go into those details, Mr. Speaker. I just want to share a few stories about Kevin and in memory of him and the kind of person he was.

And you know, the member for Nutana talked about his voice. And that's the one thing that you noticed instantly about Kevin, not only his towering size but his slow, booming voice that he had. And very few words, but that's one thing you realized about Kevin when you listened to him, that although he had a slow cadence and he had a really deep voice and didn't say a lot of words, every word he said usually had meaning to it. There was a reason for saying it. And those wise words that he often shared were backed by what has been described as a very huge heart.

We heard that he was a very strong advocate for what would be the first women's shelter built in the province after the late 1980s, and that was in no small part due to his hard work. And then we know the facility wasn't even open yet and it succumbed to fire and, you know, he was very quick on the phone to make sure that everything was in place, to make sure it was built and it wasn't delayed too long. You know, a very great guy. He was always an encouragement to have around, as has been shared as well.

But you know, I want to share one story. It's a bit of a funny story, and I'm not going to out my colleague that this story is about. But it just so happens . . . Again, we heard about Kevin's generous nature. Whether it was somebody in the alley somewhere or whether it was, you know, somebody in an office building in Regina, he was there to help. And as the story goes, this person needed a car to get around town with as theirs was in getting repaired. And Kevin, of course, would have been the first one to offer his fairly new Hemi Charger.

But Kevin, being more into helping people than maybe looking after some of his stuff and, you know, might have had the odd cigarette here and there, we know his car was probably not the cleanest or didn't smell the cleanest. And as the story goes, that this member had their car and brought it back and just offered some constructive comments that, you know, maybe he might want to clean it and maybe get it deodorized. In standard Kevin fashion, kind of looking sideways, looked over and said, did it get you where you were going? Well, yes. You're welcome. That's all that had to be said, I guess.

[16:15]

I won't say that Kevin was prophetic but I can tell you this, Mr. Speaker. The first time I met the new member for Melfort would have been at the budget, I believe it was two years ago. And that's how I got introduced to our new member for Melfort was, you know, Greg, I want to introduce you to the new MLA for Melfort — I won't say his name, I guess — will be the new member for Melfort. And it struck me as a little bit odd. But what that told me was that Kevin probably at that point decided he wasn't going to run again, but he obviously never thought we were going to be losing him that soon.

And as fate would have it, that we did lose Kevin a short time afterwards, a few months after that. And we had a by-election. And of course we know, I think there was — what? — four or five candidates there. And Kevin was right because I think without even much of a vote, I think the first round was when we acquired that new member. And we now have that MLA for Melfort. So Kevin I think saw exactly in him what I think a lot of us see now, so I think that member sells himself a little bit short from time to time as well. So I think there's a lot of similarities between Kevin and our new MLA for Melfort.

Of course, we know Kevin is obviously gone much too soon. He had a lot to offer yet in the years that he had to serve after his passing, but of course we did lose him too soon. And there was one thing that was very obvious when talking to Kevin was, of course, a love for his community and the province but most and foremost was the love for his family, specifically his wife, April. He couldn't say enough about her.

So, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of, I know, everybody from Yorkton and my family and my wife, you know, who got to know April fairly well, that Kevin is sorely missed. Rest peacefully, my friend. And God bless April. May you just enjoy God's comfort.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Carrot River Valley.

Mr. Bradshaw: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. A little story about Kevin. When the first time I ever met Kevin, I was a relatively new . . . Well I was a new MLA, and of course Kevin was the mayor of Melfort. And anyway we had a meeting in Melfort and it was actually over the health system and of course Kevin was fighting for the Melfort Hospital. I was fighting for the Nipawin Hospital. So let's put it this way. The first time I met Kevin was not a very good meeting. Fact is he got so mad, he threw his pen right down on the table. So consequently after that one, when Kevin got elected I kind of wondered how things were going to go then, but you know, we became good friends after he was elected and put all our differences aside on that end of it. And Kevin used to come over and eat at my place actually quite often.

But you know, I'd come in on Sunday evenings and there were different times I'd call Kevin up and say, hey Kevin, you want to come over to my place and grab a bite to eat? He'd always do it. You know, the stupid part was, is the night that Kevin passed away, I came in that night and I was actually running a bit late and I was thinking about giving him a call and asking him to come over and then I thought, oh it's going to be too late. And I was totally, totally shocked the next morning to find out that he had passed away.

One thing about Kevin, and it's been well said by our member from Melfort, that Kevin just really worked hard for Melfort. He definitely did. And of course the domestic violence shelter was something that Kevin was heavily involved in. And on the first Red Shoe Walk, Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, I can still remember going out there and poor Kevin. Like I mean, well poor . . . Like I mean all of us were having a hard time walking in these shoes. Anyway after so we went to walk this mile and after Kevin crashed twice trying to walk in these shoes, he finally said, the heck with it, took the shoes off, and he finished off the walk in his sock feet.

But that was how dedicated Kevin was to be able to get that done. And it was mentioned before about the shelter turning around and burning down and Kevin just said, that's no problem. We're going to get her rebuilt. And that's what they did. That was Kevin. He liked to get things done. He was very good at anything. I sat in committees with him and he was a great person. And, you know, Melfort had a great person there. I think they still do now — I guess I better cover my tracks a little bit — but he was a good person. He had that little bit of an accent and that nice, big, booming voice, so he could make himself heard. That was mentioned by the opposition too, that they could see him going once he got a little wound up.

Anyway I certainly send my condolences to April. She had a fantastic husband there and I hope that . . . She is still coping with this. I know it's very tough when something like that happens, but I certainly send my condolences to the Phillips family. And all I can say is Kevin was a great person.

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

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And it is a sense of, I suppose, regret and yet an honour to be able to talk about Kevin and his passing. We moved to Melfort and lived in Melfort for about 14 years. I moved up there to manage a furniture and carpet retail store at the time, and it was when Kevin and I were both quite a bit younger.

My first meeting with Kevin was actually when he came to sell ads. And if I remember the story rightly, this guy was eager to go and his dad, who was a partner in Phillips Publishers, really thought he was too young to get out and sell. But Kevin was an idea man — did a great job. And I remember the first time he came in and actually sold us an ad about back to school and got to know him through that route.

We belonged to the Kinsmen Club together and did a lot of great things. And like I said, Kevin was an idea man. A lot of the events that went on through the Kinsmen Club, Kevin had his hand in there somewhere. It was really his inspiration that built the club in those early years. One of the things that we used to do is the president's campaign. Every year when we had a new president coming in, we'd have some kind of a get-together event and one would try and outdo the other. And generally the side that Kevin was working on was victorious because they had that extra stir of enthusiasm. And it was all part of Kevin.

We did a First Nations where we erected a teepee on the different members' lawns and brought them in and had them, poured them a little refreshment and said this is the new chief of the Kinsmen Club.

Or one time there was a big limousine pulled into the driveway with two guys with violin cases come out and take the member, throw him in the back of the limousine, and they take him to a hotel and sit him down, well here's the new godfather of the Kinsmen Club. One time we got into a little bit trouble because they did this to a bank manager that was a member at the time, and he was home alone with his children and the children were just mortified by this. They got on their bikes and went to the police station and said somebody went and took our dad. And right now the province was on alert because there was a bank manger got abducted in Melfort, Saskatchewan. Luckily one of

the members was an RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] officer and it kind of calmed down before it totally got out of hand.

There was a time, and again it was just part of one of the ideas that Kevin came up with, there was a time in Melfort when all the billboards had about a message from Julius Caesar. "Julius Caesar buys our cars," "Julius Caesar eats at our restaurant," "Julius Caesar shops at our mall," and the whole city had no idea what this was all about. It was about a Kinsmen presidential campaign and on the Monday night following our meeting, here was Kevin's idea of Julius Caesar as the new . . . of the Kinsmen president. He had to print something in his own paper kind of explaining this whole thing that it was kind of a put-on, because the community, it had no idea what was going on about Julius Caesar in Moose Jaw, or in Melfort rather. But that was just part of Kevin's ideas. Like I said, he was an idea man.

He was involved with Telemiracle in those early days. One of the projects that he spearheaded was to pull a car from Melfort to Regina. I think it's about 280 kilometres, the member from Melfort would . . . [inaudible] . . . He drives it often enough. Well we pulled this car all the way with ropes and all. Going up that valley was a son of a gun, but we got it here. We collected money on the way, and presented it to Telemiracle at what was then the Centre of the Arts.

Another idea he had was the newspaper bingo. Being a publisher, he had this newspaper bingo sponsored by the Kinsmen Club. It was supposed to bring us in some revenue. Well it lost money, and it lost money. So finally one day he said, he came to me and he said Warren, we're losing money on this. If there's anybody that can make money out of a project like bingo, it would be a good Catholic, so would you take this over? Well when you're asked like that you kind of have to do this. I took it over. We stopped the bleeding a little bit but we never made money on that project and it died.

The Premier has alluded to what I'd mentioned before about this beach party in February, and it's one of the biggest events that happened, and there's no doubt in my mind it was the biggest beach party in February in Canada at any place.

It was an abandoned garage that we had asked to use. And we hauled in truckloads of sand. We built a pool. And Kevin being from the paper, we had strings of wallpaper there, and decorated that like the blue skies and the seagulls and the palm trees. Had a little pool in the corner. I think there was a bar. And just cranked up the heat.

And it was a regional meeting for all of the Kinsmen clubs in the province, and they all converged on Melfort and enjoyed this humongous beach party in the middle of February. And something that anybody that attended, I'm sure, would long remember.

And I also mentioned the last time I talked about Kevin, was the event that never really happened. And again being an idea man, always had these humongous ideas. I'd heard about this idea that he had to take an abandoned house and actually have a party in it and burn it down. And I thought, well that would be quite something. Well Kevin had taken this to the nth degree, just about to the very limits. He had contacted . . . He had found a

house just outside of Melfort. He'd contacted the family who had since moved to BC and had it all arranged that wouldn't it be nice to give one glorious blaze of glory for this nice old house that you had your family in and you were raised in it. It would just be the end of it.

And I think it probably would have done well, but obviously when you're at a party with some liquor — I think there was liquor involved — with music and everything going on, to go and light this place up, there was an element of doubt. What if something went wrong? And I think cooler heads prevailed, that the biggest party that there could have been, never was, because of just the, like I said, calmer heads. So he was an idea man.

We got to be very close friends and working together on different projects. As was said before, he worked very hard for the city of Moose Jaw, or for the city of Melfort rather — I've got Moose Jaw on my mind — with ideas and planning and design and strategies, detail and follow-through. That was Kevin Phillips. That's really what he did well. And like was said, well respected within the community, being not only the president of the Kinsmen club but other executive positions as well, and then went on to own businesses in Melfort, became the mayor, and the MLA as well.

When he first was elected in 2011 and came here the first time, I kind of lost touch with him a little bit after we had moved away, but we were still friends. And the first time he came here after the election he said . . . I congratulated him of course and wished him the best and he says Warren, he says, just be assured that I will never mention anything about a dead skunk — which is another Kinsman story that I won't go into. You'll have to find somebody that'll tell you but it has a little bit of humour in it as well.

It is with great loss that we lose a man of that stature, with that many ideas, and that kind of energy and enthusiasm, not only for his community but for the province. He was, Mr. Speaker, an outstanding leader. What a success. What an idea man. What a get-things-done kind of guy, a promoter. What a motivator and what a friend. May God bless Kevin Phillips and rest in peace.

[16:30]

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

Hon. Mr. Hargrave: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It is very much a privilege for me to stand, rise to my feet, and speak of a man who was my colleague, my business partner, but most of all he was my very good friend.

The friendship started the day he walked into my office in Prince Albert and walked right into my office. I'm Kevin Phillips. And he reached out, he looked at me, and we shook hands. And we looked at each other, and it was instantaneously you knew this was a man of integrity. This was a man that I was going to be friends with. And we did; we grew to be very good friends. We were partners for many years. I'm still a partner with his wife. We were very, very good friends.

We had many outstanding conversations about politics, about life in general, about why we do things. And the Premier touched on it earlier, and it's something I use in pretty much every speech I

make to people, and I encourage people to let their name stand for civic politics, for any kind of boards and stuff. If you want to make a difference, you have to get involved. And Kevin and I used that many, many times. And it's something I strongly believe in. It's something Kevin strongly believed in. We have to get involved if we want to improve our life here in Saskatchewan or in our community or in our country. And so I stand by that and I always will.

Everybody suffers regrets in life and I have, I guess, a few. But one I do have was that day Kevin and I — and I've told people this story — we used to talk to each other on the phone, on a Sunday coming down or on a Thursday driving home. But that Sunday we never, we never talked to each other. And I wasn't feeling well. I got to my condo. And Kevin and I lived very close. We only lived a couple blocks from each other. I got into my condo and I wasn't feeling well. I had a bite to eat but then I watched a little TV. I went to bed. But for some reason, and I never do this, I put my phone on silent.

So I go to sleep and I wake up the next morning, and early the next morning I look at my phone. And there's a bunch of messages from April. And she says Kevin never . . . "He hasn't called me. Can you help me? I need you to go over and see if Kevin's okay." But of course that was the next morning. It was much, much too late. But I had probably 10 messages from April and I've always regretted turning my phone on silent.

We lived just a couple blocks apart, and every day I'm in Regina I have to drive by his old apartment. He lived in Rainbow Towers down on Gordon Road. I'm just a little further down on Gordon Road. So each day to this day I look back. Every day I go by, I look up to where Kevin lived on the sixth floor. I look up to his old apartment and think of Kevin. But he used to say to me, he'd say Rainbow Towers, Joe, he says, just so you know, Rainbow Towers is just where I live. It's not a lifestyle comment, he says. He would tell me that all the time: it's just where I live.

We had many conversations on our drives down. As well known in the House, I mean I live four hours away. Kevin lived three hours away. And you know, one of the hardest things we all do is we drive down on a Sunday. We leave our spouse there. And I know for Kevin it was very, very difficult. It's very difficult for me. It's very difficult for everyone in here. It's probably the hardest thing we do because we are so close with . . . I am, I am with mine and Kevin was with April. We're so close to our spouses that it's just so difficult to leave on that Sunday, and you just can't wait to get home on the Thursday.

Kevin used to . . . We used to talk or whatever and he would say, I remember a few times he would say, "Oh by the way, I'm going to make a stop." So he would tell me, and he would just pull into a yard he didn't even know. He had no appointment with this individual. It was in his constituency and it was a farmyard and he said, "I just wanted to see what this person has to say." So he would just pull in, knock on the guy's door, and say, "Hi. I'm Kevin Phillips, your MLA. I'm just wondering how things are going." And it was just something that he would do. It was quite amazing. He was quite an amazing man.

It was quite a privilege for me to be able to be asked to speak at Kevin's funeral. I mean it was me and former Premier Wall that we got a chance to speak and talk about Kevin and what an

individual he was, what a man. And I spoke that he was a man of courage. And he was because he spoke up for everybody. He spoke up for the small guy. He spoke up for the big guy. He was always, always there to help out. He was so involved in his community. He loved his community. He loved this province.

You know, most of all, of course, he loved April and his family. April was the love of his life and Kevin was the love of April's life. I see her. She's still very good friends with my wife and I, and she always will be. I see her often. She still struggles, but she's moving along very slowly. You know, we see her . . . It was good. And I ran into her at SUMA. She's still in politics. You know, she's still on council in Melfort. And I seen her at SUMA. We had good, big hugs there. And I know she just loved being there. And she said Kevin would have loved to have been here. She said this was his thing. He loved and he would talk to everybody. I mean there's what, how many people? There's 1,500 people or whatever at SUMA and Kevin would love to be there and love to talk to everybody. And she says you just couldn't drag him out of here.

But the rest of my colleagues and the members opposite I know have talked about his other many accomplishments, his walking miles and miles in those red shoes, and got me going on that thing. I haven't twisted an ankle yet, but I'm sure I will this year or next year, whatever, because you know, we're going to continue to do it.

Last year we were up there. Many of us were up there walking. There was members from all over there and they had little prizes. And of the little prizes, you know, it was for the most team members. Well we far exceeded everybody else. We had the most team members there. And they had a prize for raising the most amount of money. We far exceeded everybody else. So you know what our prize was? My little prize was a little red shoe tape dispenser. And that sits on my desk in my office. So if you're ever wondering, it's not because I couldn't afford a good one. If you're in my office, it's because I look at that and I think of Kevin. And I just can't help it.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I mean, like I say, we were very close friends. And not everybody knew that because it wasn't like we hung out here all the time at the legislature. It wasn't that type. We were friends. And we had many excellent conversations and we would talk about other people here in the . . . some of our colleagues and some of the members opposite, you know, on our little drive home and whatever. But it was always good and he was always very respectful of this building, of the Speaker, of the House. He thought it was such a privilege to serve.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say, Kevin, you're truly missed by me. You're truly missed by all your friends in this House on both sides. Rest in peace, my good friend.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Hon. Mr. Brkich: — I request leave for a motion of transmittal.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has asked for leave for a motion of transmittal. Is the motion granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Go ahead.

TRANSMITTAL MOTION

Hon. Mr. Brkich: —

That notwithstanding rule 8(2) of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, the Speaker, on behalf of the Legislative Assembly, transmit copies of the official records of the tributes to the bereaved families in memory of the deceased members.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

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

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

[The Assembly adjourned at 16:41.]

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President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

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Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Minister Responsible for Innovation

Hon. Lori Carr
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Central Services
Minister Responsible for the Provincial
Capital Commission
Minister Responsible for Public Service Commission

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Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water
Security Agency
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation

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Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
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