



FOURTH SESSION - TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

of the

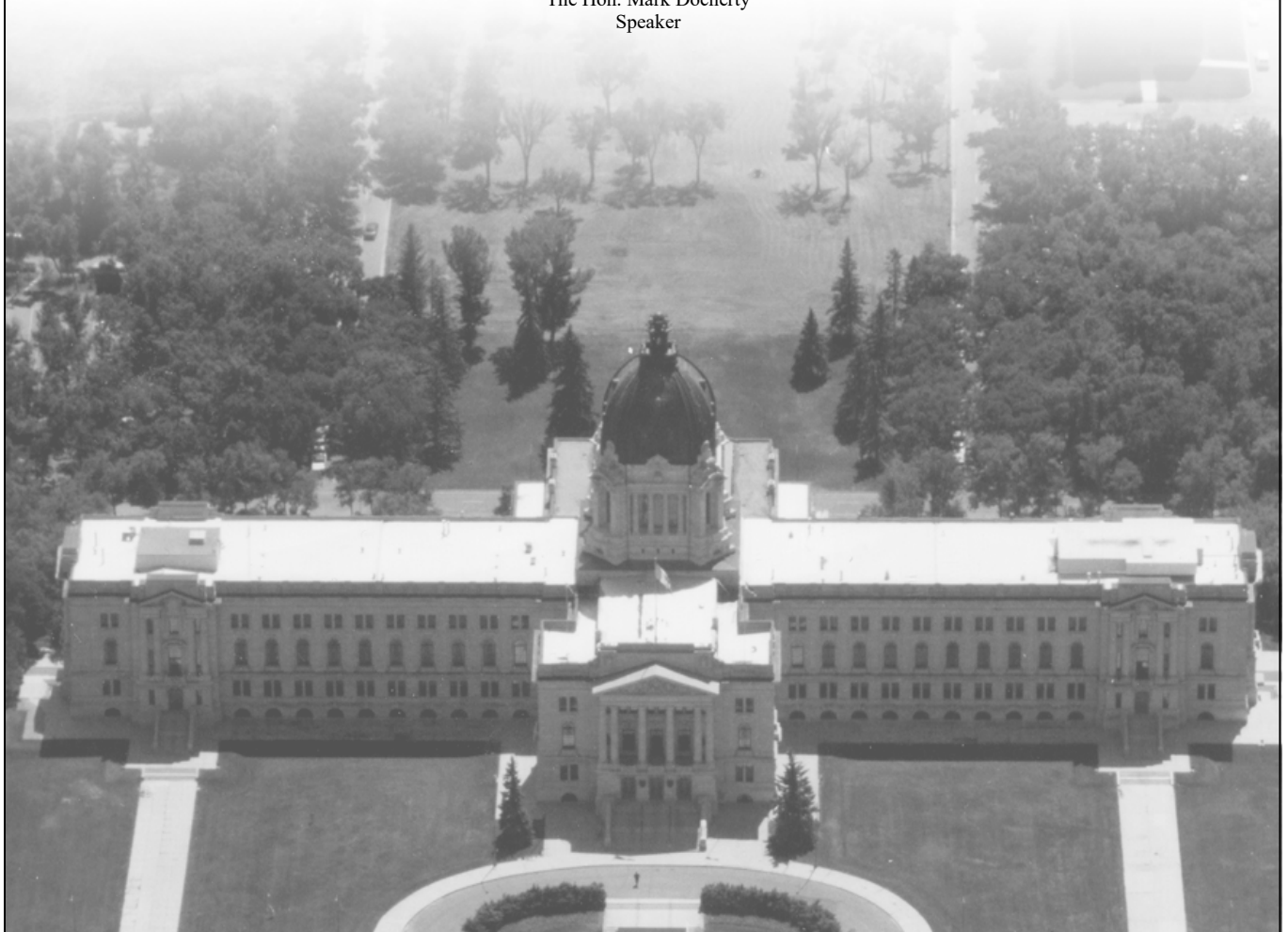
**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

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**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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



**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**4th Session — 28th Legislature**

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

<b>Beaudry-Mellor</b> , Hon. Tina — Regina University (SP)	<b>Makowsky</b> , Hon. Gene — Regina Gardiner Park (SP)
<b>Beck</b> , Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP)	<b>Marit</b> , Hon. David — Wood River (SP)
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<b>Bonk</b> , Steven — Moosomin (SP)	<b>McMorris</b> , Don — Indian Head-Milestone (SP)
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<b>Brkich</b> , Greg — Arm River (SP)	<b>Merriman</b> , Hon. Paul — Saskatoon Silverspring-Sutherland (SP)
<b>Buckingham</b> , David — Saskatoon Westview (SP)	<b>Michelson</b> , Warren — Moose Jaw North (SP)
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<b>Cheveldayoff</b> , Hon. Ken — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)	<b>Mowat</b> , Vicki — Saskatoon Fairview (NDP)
<b>Cox</b> , Herb — The Battlefords (SP)	<b>Nerlien</b> , Hugh — Kelvington-Wadena (SP)
<b>D'Autremont</b> , Dan — Cannington (SP)	<b>Olauson</b> , Eric — Saskatoon University (SP)
<b>Dennis</b> , Terry — Canora-Pelly (SP)	<b>Ottenbreit</b> , Hon. Greg — Yorkton (SP)
<b>Docherty</b> , Hon. Mark — Regina Coronation Park (SP)	<b>Pedersen, Yens</b> — Regina Northeast (NDP)
<b>Doke</b> , Larry — Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP)	<b>Rancourt</b> , Nicole — Prince Albert Northcote (NDP)
<b>Duncan</b> , Hon. Dustin — Weyburn-Big Muddy (SP)	<b>Reiter</b> , Hon. Jim — Rosetown-Elrose (SP)
<b>Eyre</b> , Hon. Bronwyn — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP)	<b>Ross</b> , Laura — Regina Rochdale (SP)
<b>Fiaz</b> , Muhammad — Regina Pasqua (SP)	<b>Sarauer</b> , Nicole — Regina Douglas Park (NDP)
<b>Forbes</b> , David — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)	<b>Sproule</b> , Cathy — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP)
<b>Francis</b> , Ken — Kindersley (SP)	<b>Steele</b> , Doug — Cypress Hills (SP)
<b>Goudy</b> , Hon. Todd — Melfort (SP)	<b>Stewart</b> , Lyle — Lumsden-Morse (SP)
<b>Hargrave</b> , Hon. Joe — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)	<b>Tell</b> , Hon. Christine — Regina Wascana Plains (SP)
<b>Harpauer</b> , Hon. Donna — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)	<b>Vermette</b> , Doyle — Cumberland (NDP)
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<b>Hart</b> , Glen — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)	<b>Wilson</b> , Nadine — Saskatchewan Rivers (SP)
<b>Heppner</b> , Nancy — Martensville-Warman (SP)	<b>Wotherspoon</b> , Trent — Regina Rosemont (NDP)
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<b>Kaeding</b> , Hon. Warren — Melville-Saltcoats (SP)	<b>Young</b> , Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)
<b>Kirsch</b> , Delbert — Batoche (SP)	
<b>Lambert</b> , Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)	<b>Vacant</b> — Regina Walsh Acres
<b>Lawrence</b> , Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)	<b>Vacant</b> — Saskatoon Eastview

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**Party Standings:** Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 46; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 13; Vacant — 2

**Clerks-at-the-Table**

**Clerk** — Gregory A. Putz

**Law Clerk & Parliamentary Counsel** — Kenneth S. Ring, Q.C.

**Principal Clerk** — Iris Lang

**Clerk Assistant** — Kathy Burianyak

**Sergeant-at-Arms** — Terry Quinn

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to ask for an extended introduction.

**The Speaker:** — The minister has asked leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all the members of the Legislative Assembly, I'd like to welcome a few honoured guests seated on our floor here today.

We have a few folks from the CNIB [Canadian National Institute for the Blind] and the Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing with us here today. We have Ms. Christall Beaudry, executive director of the CNIB Foundation Saskatchewan; Mr. Nairn Gillies, executive director of Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Ms. Sherry Grabowski, executive director of CNIB Deafblind Community Services from Ontario. We have Patti Spicer, member of the Deaf-blind community; Nicole Musey, member of the Deaf community; and their interpreter, Karen Nurkowsky, have joined us here today to observe the proceedings in the House.

Earlier this morning, myself and the Minister of Education, Minister of Health, and Minister of Rural and Remote Health met this group to see what our government can continue to do to support these organizations. Mr. Speaker, we appreciate the CNIB and the Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing's efforts to assist the Saskatchewan citizens who are Deaf, Deaf-blind, or Deaf-blind-plus to achieve their goals and increase their independence. These folks and the represented organizations help ensure that citizens of the Deaf-blind and Deaf-blind-plus community, or partially sighted, are active, inclusive members of their community. They also advocate and inform us on the best practices in our country and advocate the benefits of ASL [American Sign Language] and the world of communication that ASL opens up for the Deaf and Deaf-blind-plus community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members give Christall, Nairn, Sherry, Patti, Nicole, and Karen a warm welcome to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join in with the minister in welcoming these guests to their legislature. And I know that it's been a long, hard struggle, and the struggle will continue to fight for the rights of the Deaf and

hard of hearing and the blind. It's very important that we do this. So I welcome Christall and Sherry and Nairn and Nicole and Karen to their legislature. And we wish them all the very best as they work with the government of the day, but know that we're here with you as well. We really understand and support the struggles that you have.

Particularly I just want to give a shout-out to the folks with the CNIB; it's very important the work that you do. But also the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, particularly in the work, as you read in today's paper, about recognizing American Sign Language as a language of instruction and a language of heritage. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport.

**Hon. Mr. Makowsky:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

**The Speaker:** — The minister has asked leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Makowsky:** — Mr. Speaker, I have two introductions today. I am very proud to introduce in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, Chad Wagner. He is the provincial executive director of the Royal Canadian Legion — Saskatchewan Command, as well as Lavern Sobus, who is the district commander for the same organization.

Mr. Speaker, Chad's from Regina and his office is responsible for the 165 legion branches in the province. Also Mr. Lavern Sobus, as I mentioned, he's a branch manager from Nokomis of legion No. 290. Lavern is a veteran who served with Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry unit.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year the government was able to announce a program to support the wonderful work our legions do and our ANAVETS [Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada] units across the province, and this program was meant to strengthen and contribute to the long-term sustainability of military service clubs and the great work they do in our communities and for families. And so these two gentlemen do great work and we appreciate all that. I understand the branch in Nokomis received some funding, and what they did with that is to replace their bathroom and sewer system.

So, Mr. Speaker, more importantly we appreciate the great work in communities but also their service to and in the Canadian Armed Forces. And at this time of year we take significant time to think about and thank about the sacrifice and the great work and how proud we are of our military personnel. So help me welcome them, please.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, also in your gallery there are winners of the arts awards which took place in Saskatoon a couple of nights ago. We're very happy to have Martha Cole here, David McIntyre, Risa Payant. They have been artists and they have been working at it for many decades, and they do great

work and they receive awards. We'll hear more in a member's statement later on. Also with them is CEO [chief executive officer] of the Arts Board, Michael Jones. So we thank them for being here today and we appreciate all their work they do for our arts and culture community. And again we'll hear a little bit more in a few minutes, but I ask all members to welcome them as well.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to join with the minister in making a more abbreviated recognition and introduction of the guests that we have here today, but certainly Chad Wagner and Lavern Sobus from the Canadian Legion, Mr. Speaker.

It's my great honour to represent Branch 001 in Regina Elphinstone-Centre of the Royal Canadian Legion. And certainly this is . . . of all the times of the year when we remember, this is where it's most acute. And certainly this is work on the part of the government that is very well placed in terms of supporting the Legion in the tremendous work that you've done for all Canadian people to these many years. So again we sign up for a vote of thanks, along with the minister, to the folks from the Legion and welcome them here to their Legislative Assembly.

And as well, Mr. Speaker, to the Saskatchewan Arts Board and for the tremendous recognition and showcase and acknowledgement of the tremendous arts community that we have in this province. The awards having just taken place, we say again, congratulations to the winners, thank you to the folks that make the scene go round 365 days a year. And again, Mr. Speaker, on a particularly local note, glad to see Common Weal Community Arts here that won in the community category, Mr. Speaker. And again, just an example of a tremendously well-placed recognition for organizations like Common Weal, individuals that do tremendous work all the year through. So again, Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure to join with the minister in welcoming these very important guests to their Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to this Assembly, I have a number of visitors in the west gallery that I would like to introduce to the members here today. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we introduced legislation to regulate vaping, and we had a number of visitors in the gallery for that, including members of a group called Youth 4 Change that were here yesterday. Well today, Mr. Speaker, we also have a number of members of the Youth 4 Change group today from Piapot First Nation. They weren't able to be here yesterday but they came today for second reading of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, accompanying them are a couple of dignitaries that were here yesterday, and we have Jennifer May from the Saskatchewan Lung Association and Donna Pasiechnik from the Canadian Cancer Society.

Mr. Speaker, they're all here for second reading of the bill. I welcome them all and I'd ask all members to please give them a warm welcome to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to join in with the Minister of Health in welcoming these guests to their Assembly today. For Jennifer May and Donna Pasiechnik, welcome them back as we saw them as recently as yesterday. And for the youth that are here from Piapot, a special welcome. Thank you for the interactive display that we saw last spring at the MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] reception and the conversations we were able to have at that event as well. So welcome to your Assembly, and I would ask all members to join me in welcoming them.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

**Hon. Ms. Tell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sitting in the west gallery here this afternoon is a group of 52 students from W.S. Hawrylak School in my constituency. And as you can tell, Mr. Speaker, they're very enthusiastic about being here today. With them today is Meaghen Da Costa and Madame Jacqueline Roy. Accompanying them is Kristi Barber and Cindy Shell. I'd like to welcome all of you here today to your Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Pedersen:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister in welcoming Madame Roy to her Assembly. A few years back I had the invitation to present to Madame Roy's class on bees and beekeeping and take several thousand of those creatures into her class. I haven't got a repeat invitation this year, but I'm sure it's in the mail. In any case, I'd like to ask all members to join with me in welcoming her to her Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Regina Rochdale.

**Ms. Ross:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I ask leave for an extended introduction.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member.

**Ms. Ross:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, seated in your gallery we have some individuals that are here today from Build Love YQR. So seated today in your gallery is Brandon Fuchs, Trevor Anderson, Amanda Brady, Christy Lawson, Peter Furlas, Lex Kress, Kaila Anderson. And, Mr. Speaker, I will have more to say about this wonderful team of volunteers later on in my member statement. So I ask all members here in the Legislative Assembly to join with me in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to join with the member opposite to welcome the leadership of

Build Love YQR to their Assembly. In short, this collaboration demonstrates the best of this province that we all love. The empathy they show and the effort they put into extending dignity and ensuring supports for particular people and families is remarkable. And the project that they've taken on again, working with the Gorskis, is a really important project and something that should be celebrated on the floor of the Assembly.

So to this group of entrepreneurs and philanthropists who give back to our community, thanks for building love in our community. Thank you for the example and the leadership, the example you set for all of us. I ask all members to offer our thanks.

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

**Mr. Olason:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you in your gallery, I'd like to introduce my daughter, Danielle Dyok. She's joining us here today from grade 9 at Holy Cross High School in Saskatoon. And it's spend a day with your dad at work day there, so she gets to miss school and gets to spend a fabulous day here in the legislature. She came down this morning and she's participated in various meetings and met with different ministers and ministries, as well as the Premier, Mr. Speaker.

[13:45]

She enjoys playing soccer the most, football, curling, and most every sport. She enjoys life at the farm, where she visits often her grandparents out at Foam Lake. And she loves her horses, and of course her dogs and cats.

She's pretty interested in politics as well, Mr. Speaker. She actually spent a lot of time helping one of our candidates in Saskatoon West get elected this last federal election, Mr. Speaker. And so I'm looking forward to all of our time spent together door knocking in the coming months as we get ready for our next election, Mr. Speaker. So I'd ask all members to warmly welcome Danielle to her legislature.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to join briefly with an introduction that was made earlier and draw attention to a young man here today from Piapot First Nation, and I'm speaking of Winter Ironchild. And, Mr. Speaker, Winter, he's been to this building before. He's been here before helping his mosôm perform ceremonies to help us all out and to do these things in a good way, Mr. Speaker. His mosôm of course is Murray Ironchild. And so that Winter is back here today to keep doing that good work is not a surprise. But it's very good to see Winter here today in the gallery of his Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of northern Saskatchewan residents that *The Saskatchewan Strategy for Suicide Prevention Act* was

introduced in 2018 but has not been passed because it has not received the support from the Sask Party government; that suicide continues to affect families throughout Saskatchewan. The rate of suicide among First Nations girls is 29 times higher than other girls.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call upon the Sask Party government to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to address suicide in Saskatchewan.

It is signed by many good people of northern Saskatchewan. I so present.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Lloydminster.

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

I'd like to read the prayer:

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by the good citizens of Lloydminster, Paradise Hill, and Marshall. I do so present.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise once again today to present petitions on behalf of concerned citizens, businesses, and communities all across our province as it relates to the Sask Party's hike and expansion of the PST [provincial sales tax], a billion dollars by way of the new revenues flowing into government. It's a hard hit on households who are now facing \$800 more per year that they're paying for that PST in just a four-year period, and that's annually, Mr. Speaker.

And of course as it relates to the construction sector, this is quite simply the epitome of a job-killing tax. Very sadly the results speak for themselves: important projects have been shelved in communities all across our province; permits are down all across Saskatchewan; and thousands of hard-working tradespeople have lost their employment, forced to find employment in other industries, and many others forced right out of Saskatchewan in pursuit of employment, a loss for them and their family but a tremendous loss for us as a province.

The prayer reads as follows:

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 costs 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 of Earl Grey and Silton. I so submit.

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling on the Sask Party government to call by-elections in Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview. The undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan want to bring to our attention the following: that unfortunately the seats in the Legislative Assembly for Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview are currently vacant, but because of a loophole in *The Legislative Assembly Act*, by-elections are not legally required to be called in Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview because the former MLAs did not resign before August 6th, 2019. They resigned a few weeks later, in September.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we know that unless a by-election is called, constituents in Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview will go without representation for nearly 14 months until the next provincial election is held on October 26th, 2020. But the Premier has the power and authority to call by-elections in Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview, even though *The Legislative Assembly Act* doesn't require that.

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

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan urge the Premier to call by-elections in the constituencies of Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview.

And, Mr. Speaker, the people signing these petitions today come from Regina Walsh Acres and Saskatoon Eastview. I do so present. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition to fix the crisis in our classrooms. Those who have signed this petition wish to draw our attention to the following: that the Sask Party government's cuts mean falling per-student funding with fewer supports for students who need a little extra help; that the Sask Party government's cuts leave educators without the resources that they need to support student learning; and that the Sask Party government is ignoring overcrowding in our classrooms by refusing to track and report classroom sizes; also that the Sask Party government's failure to invest in our classrooms is having serious consequences today.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call upon the Sask Party government to immediately fix the crisis in our classrooms by properly funding the most important investment that we can make in our children.

Mr. Speaker, those who have signed this petition today reside in Central Butte and Wadena. I do so present.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon

Fairview.

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition to end unacceptable emergency room wait times. These citizens wish to bring to our attention that, despite the Sask Party government's promise to eliminate emergency room wait times in 2012, wait times in Saskatchewan's emergency rooms continue to grow; that instead of making smart investments to meet emergency room targets, the Sask Party government watered down targets to the point where they no longer exist; and that the Sask Party has cut funding to address emergency room wait times and has no meaningful strategy to get emergency room wait times under control.

I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Sask Party government to fully fund and execute a plan, as they promised to do in 2012, to lower and eventually end ER wait times across Saskatchewan.

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

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

#### Saskatchewan Arts Awards

**Mr. Olauson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Monday night I attended the 2019 Saskatchewan Arts Awards presented by the Saskatchewan Arts Board. These awards are a chance to celebrate the individuals, groups, and organizations who contribute so much to our arts community. From poetry and music to filmmaking and textile arts, there is so much diversity in this sector.

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Arts Awards is about recognizing this diversity and reminding ourselves just how much art contributes to our quality of life. Mr. Speaker, the minister introduced some of the award winners, but I would like to recognize them once again: Martha Cole, an internationally recognized master fibre artist; composer David L. McIntyre; poet Zoey Roy; jeweller Mary Lynn Podiluk; Kim Houghtaling, director and curator at the Art Gallery of Swift Current; and Common Weal Community Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I deeply admire and appreciate the dedication and creativity that these artists have shown to their craft. Supporting our local artists and expanding access to the arts can only make our province richer.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Saskatchewan Arts Board for recognizing and promoting artistic excellence in our province every year. Please join me in once again congratulating all of the 2019 Saskatchewan Arts Awards winners on their accomplishments. Thank you.

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

### Remembrance Day

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to remember and recognize the service of our veterans and those currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. With Remembrance Day coming up on Monday, it is important that we thank the women and men who, without fail, serve and protect us.

Every one of these members, past and present, has made sacrifices for us to protect our freedom and the democracy of our great country. Saskatchewan has a long and proud history of service to our nation. Individuals from across our province have put their names forward to serve in every branch of the Canadian Armed Forces. Everyone has a connection to someone who has served and made sacrifices.

To me this is one of the reasons why Remembrance Day is such an important time for all of us to come together so we can collectively reflect on the sacrifices of those who have served and continue to serve. It is important to make sure that each of us takes time on November 11th specifically, but also every day to remember and thank those who have sacrificed so much.

Mr. Speaker, it is with that in mind that I ask all members of this Assembly to join me in extending our thanks and respect to those that serve, have served, and those we've lost.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Veterans' Gallery Reopens

**Mr. Doke:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This summer I attended the grand reopening of the Lashburn Veterans' Gallery at its new home at the Lashburn Legion. Mr. Speaker, the Veterans' Gallery has been running its installation since 1999. Milly Carruthers, a teacher from Lashburn, originally had the idea to honour Canadian veterans in a unique way. Mr. Speaker, the Veterans' Gallery consists of records of service, framed photos, and biographies provided by loving soldiers' families. Uniforms worn in the Boer War, World War I, World War II, prison art, medals, pictures, a rocket launcher are just a few of the items that can be seen at the museum.

Mr. Speaker, this gallery gives visitors the opportunity to view stories and pictures of the men and women who served. It just puts into perspective that the soldiers were not just soldiers. They were sons and daughters, friends, brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers. They were ordinary people making an extraordinary sacrifice.

I want to congratulate the community members, organizers, and volunteers who worked to make the new home of the Lashburn Veterans' Gallery a place to be proud of. And this Remembrance Day and every other day, let us not forget the privileges we have

are because of the men and women who fought for them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Show Your 4-H Colours Day

**Mr. Pedersen:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last night the member from Kindersley caught me shopping for this green shirt. And the reason why, Mr. Speaker, is that on the first Wednesday of November, 4-H members, leaders, supporters, and alumni like myself come together to wear something green. This special day is called Show Your 4-H Colours Day. It's celebrated every year to acknowledge, honour, and spread awareness of the positive impact the 4-H program is making in Canada and abroad.

Now in addition to encouraging people to show their colours, dozens of world-famous landmarks and attractions in Canada are going green today: the CN Tower, Niagara Falls, city hall buildings in Lethbridge and Vancouver, and the Reconciliation bridge in Calgary will all be lit up green to mark the occasion.

For more than 100 years 4-H has been one of the most well-respected youth service organizations in Canada. 4-H has given young people opportunities to learn to do by doing through a dedicated group of volunteer leaders and mentors who deliver world-class, positive leadership development in the areas relevant to today's youth.

This year 4-H clubs across the province are holding a food drive with the goal of donating a collective 3,000 pounds of food. And across Canada, 4-H will also be giving back with an electronics recycling drive. I encourage all of our members to participate in 4-H's Give Back Drives to help our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing the valuable work of 4-H, its volunteers and alumni in developing tomorrow's leaders.

[14:00]

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

### Métis War Veteran Recognized

**Mr. Lawrence:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm honoured to stand today and recognize a very important veteran, Jim Boucher. Mr. Speaker, Jim served our country in the Second World War. He was a member of the Seaforth Highlanders, fighting on the front lines in northern Italy. Last month he was presented with a cheque for \$20,000 by the Métis Nation Minister of Veterans' Affairs as compensation for the lack of support Métis veterans received from the Canadian government after returning home from the war.

Mr. Speaker, many young men and women were welcomed back to Canada with medals, praise, and government support once the war had ended, but for First Nations and Métis soldiers, they were told to just go home and move on. This unfortunately led to many of them battling various physical or mental health issues as they were left alone to deal with the impact that the war had on them.

Mr. Speaker, Jim is now 97 years old and he is finally being honoured for his efforts in the Second World War. After the ceremony, his children spoke on his behalf and expressed their gratitude for the recognition of Jim's sacrifice for his community and his country. Mr. Speaker, we would also extend our gratitude to Jim and all the other Métis and First Nations veterans who have served Canada so honourably.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Regina Rochdale.

### Build Love Home Renovation Program

**Ms. Ross:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This past week, Build Love YQR unveiled their latest renovation to a very deserving family from my constituency, the Gorskis. Mr. Speaker, Build Love is an annual home renovation program improving the quality of life for a family who live with non-typical challenges here in Regina.

Bonnie Gorski has been living with MS [multiple sclerosis] for most of her adult life. Her husband, Stuart, has been her champion through this whole experience, serving as her primary caregiver with the help of their two sons, Sam and Jack, and their rescue pup, Scout.

Bonnie's mobility has been rapidly declining, leaving her unable to move throughout their home without assistance. Build Love led this renovation with a goal of redesigning the Gorski's home to better accommodate Bonnie's current and future accessibility needs, allowing Bonnie to continue living in their family home, giving her the quality of life every person deserves. Build Love unveiled a beautiful home to the family on October 23rd, which featured an elevator and mobility equipment.

Mr. Speaker, this city continues to amaze me, and it is so encouraging to see our community stand together to help those in need and continue to build love. I now ask all members to join me in thanking the Build Love YQR team and everyone who contributed to this incredible renovation. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Honour Our Veterans Event

**Mr. Cox:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last Friday I had the honour of speaking at a very important and memorable event called Honour our Veterans. It was hosted in a packed Legion hall in Battleford. What this event celebrated was a new initiative between three partners: the Battleford Legion Branch 9, the town of Battleford, and the Fred Light Museum board.

Mr. Speaker, these three partners share a vision to honour our veterans, and as a result of their efforts and their desire to honour and remember, 50 veterans will be honoured as their picture banners will be hung from the light standards down Main Street in Battleford. Mr. Speaker, the banners will hang until November 18th, and I think that this is just another way that we can remember our veterans for a few weeks rather than just on Remembrance Day.

Mr. Speaker, at that ceremony, as a video was playing naming

each of the 50 veterans, I was so proud to have been able to get to know some of those World War II veterans who were able to come home back to the Battlefords, one of those being Archie Pruden, the member from Cut Knife-Turtleford's father-in-law. And I am sure he has several fond memories of time spent around the Pruden household.

At this time of year, our veterans are foremost in all of our minds. And we must never take for granted that these brave men and women were at the front lines of battle, fighting to preserve everything that we enjoy today. Mr. Speaker, we must never forget.

### QUESTION PERIOD

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

### Effect of Carbon Tax on Agriculture Industry

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all in this House are well aware, agriculture is central to our culture, to our economy, to our way of life. And farmers in this province are facing significant hardship this year. We've had a wet fall, a late harvest, and an early snow. There's still lots of crop in the field, swath under snow, and with a wet fall comes grain drying. And this year, on top of the natural gas bills, comes as well the federal backstop the farmers are having to pay on their grain-drying bills, Mr. Speaker. Now that's amounting to hundreds of dollars in added bills and added hardship to farmers.

So my question to the Premier is this: today I sent a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to rebate that portion of the carbon backstop pricing directly to the farmers who've paid it on their grain-drying bills, send that money right back to the farmers that pay that, and make a big difference in their bottom line this year.

My question to the Premier: will he join me in that call and ask for that rebate to happen this fall?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Moe:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Leader of the Opposition for this very important question given this particular year in agriculture, agriculture which is regarded as the spinal cord of the economy here in the province.

And he is mostly correct, Mr. Speaker, with respect to the challenges that we are having in agriculture. We have some weather-related challenges here this year. The rain started late this year, Mr. Speaker. And miraculously . . . well I wouldn't say miraculously; due to good agronomic practices of our farmers employing the very latest techniques, Mr. Speaker, we were able to come through with a fairly significant harvest this year. It looks like it'll be the second-largest on record despite the weather challenges that we have this fall, Mr. Speaker.

But we continue to have challenges with market access of which we are working very hard on. The Minister of Agriculture just returned from Mexico engaging on the canola file, the durum wheat file. Myself, Mr. Speaker, I was in Japan. I was in Seoul, South Korea.



With respect to the challenges that we are feeling from the federal government, Mr. Speaker, which doesn't maybe look like it will change too quickly as they have a minority government to head into the next four years, the Leader of the Opposition is going to ask the Prime Minister to return those carbon tax funds that are being paid on drying our agri-food products in this province, Mr. Speaker. And I respect that position. It's a change from his previous position. I wrote a letter, Mr. Speaker, saying that the Prime Minister shouldn't have charged it in the first place.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier has been loud and clear on this, but mostly loud, mostly loud, and not particularly effective. He's not succeeded in overturning Trudeau's plan overall. He has not succeeded. In fact he has failed to work with farmers to come up with an alternative that works for Saskatchewan, works for our economy. He's failed.

And, Mr. Speaker, today he failed a very simple question. I'll repeat that question. Will he join me in asking for that rebate to come immediately back to farmers on the bills they paid for grain drying? Will he stop pointing fingers elsewhere? Will he act . . .

[Interjections]

**The Speaker:** — Order, please. Order, please. The Leader of the Opposition, finish your question, please. Thanks.

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a very simple question. Will he join me in asking the Prime Minister to return those grain-drying bills, carbon backstop dollars, directly to the farmers who paid them?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Moe:** — Mr. Speaker, this is somewhat refreshing to have this kind of an initiative come from the leader opposite, Mr. Speaker. As people of this province know, actually as many people of this nation know, Mr. Speaker, we have been starkly against the federal government's position with respect to their carbon tax. We feel it impacts industries in this province, industries that are creating wealth in our communities right across Saskatchewan — industries like manufacturing; like our energy industry, one on the most sustainable in the world; like our agriculture industry, Mr. Speaker, the most sustainable agriculture industry in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly wrote letters to the Prime Minister. I have repeatedly discussed this with him personally. Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition is looking just for someone to co-sign his letter with him, I would suggest that he ask the federal leader of the NDP [New Democratic Party], Mr. Jagmeet Singh, Mr. Speaker. Or is he too stuck in his pro-carbon tax, anti-pipeline, anti-agriculture, anti-Saskatchewan agenda?

[Applause]

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Wow, Mr. Speaker. That level of applause, that level of encouragement for a failure to respond to the needs of farmers today. This was entirely predictable, entirely

preventable. We saw it happen in Alberta. We knew this was going to happen to farmers, but this Premier . . .

[Interjections]

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Entirely predictable, entirely preventable. This Premier refused to come up with an alternate plan. This Premier refused to come to the table on behalf of farmers, which means we can only conclude one thing, Mr. Speaker. We can only conclude one thing: that he's more interested in the political gain of farmers getting those bills than he is in relieving that added cost.

When will this Premier stand up for Saskatchewan people in a real way, and stand up and ask for this rebate to come this fall for our farmers?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Moe:** — Mr. Speaker, on October 3rd of 2016, Mr. Speaker, I was the Minister of Environment for this great province of Saskatchewan. I was attending a meeting with other ministers of Environment across this nation, as well as the federal Minister of Environment, Mr. Speaker, when the Prime Minister stood up and said that he was going to impose this unnecessary, ineffective tax on the hard-working families of this province, Mr. Speaker, impose this tax on the industries in this province, Mr. Speaker.

I said that day that Saskatchewan won't stand for this. We have taken him to the provincial Court of Appeal, Mr. Speaker, and now in the Supreme Court, Mr. Speaker. At that very time, Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan now-Leader of the Opposition stood up and said that he supports a carbon tax on the people of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is an ineffective tax. It should not be charged on our farmers. It should not be charged on our families. It should particularly not be charged on some of the most sustainable industries that are operating in the world, operating and creating wealth right here in this great province.

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

### Government's Fiscal Management

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, when a minister is asked a question in question period, they have to make a choice. Is this a serious matter that needs a serious response, or is it something that should be laughed off with partisan rhetoric? Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Finance minister certainly chose the latter when I asked her very serious questions about the hard reality facing Saskatchewan people who are struggling more and more to make ends meet.

At a time we're facing foreclosures that have skyrocketed and that mortgage delinquencies are at the highest rate in Canada, twice that of Alberta, this isn't something to joke about. And that minister needs to stop letting them down. So my question is this: what's the plan to turn things around and address the fact that

more and more Saskatchewan people can't make ends meet?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Finance minister.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And the plan remains the same. This government has done a lot of changes to the tax system to ensure that our residents keep more of their hard-earned dollars in their pocket. I read those numbers in the record yesterday. It wasn't a joke. Those are hard numbers. Those are the facts, that people are retaining more of their hard-earned dollars than they did a decade ago under the NDP. That's a fact. That's even with the increase of the PST.

We did have to make hard decisions in order to maintain and sustain services that our citizens also expect in health care and education. What's the answer from the NDP? It's up corporate tax, Mr. Speaker, which will drive investment out of this province. As soon as investment leaves, so do the jobs, Mr. Speaker. What would they do to create jobs in this province?

[14:15]

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Political games and a distraction again from the hard reality that folks are facing. And a real joke, Mr. Speaker, when you look at the reality that the Sask Party government hiked taxes by a billion dollars with the PST and that equates to \$800 more per year for the average family in Saskatchewan. A billion-dollar tax hike.

On Monday the Saskatoon Home Builders' Association CEO, Chris Guérette, told Saskatoon city council's planning, development, and community services committee that "2019 is one of the hardest years that we've experienced as an industry," and pointed to a report that shows "The changes to PST on construction negatively impact affordability and the overall housing market in Saskatoon."

So if the Sask Party won't take my word for it, will they take the word of business leaders like Chris Guérette who are also calling for the PST on construction labour to finally be scrapped?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Finance minister.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Yet again the members opposite cherry-pick what they want out of a report and what was said. Mr. Speaker, I have always acknowledged with every tax increase there is an impact. We acknowledge that. It was acknowledged in the budget when the tax increase was implemented.

But, Mr. Speaker, in the housing market in particular, there was an overbuild. The builders and developers acknowledged that. Mr. Speaker, it plummeted even worse in Alberta, which has no PST, than the housing starts plummeted here in Saskatchewan. And also, Mr. Speaker, it plummeted in used housing. Used housing has no PST.

The economy plummeted and so did the housing starts, Mr. Speaker, and the biggest factor of all was the stress test. And if the member opposite, who's a very good reader obviously . . . He has read articles every single day on how the federal

government's changes to the stress test took 20 per cent of the buyers out of the market entirely.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — We share concerns on the stress test, but this minister makes a fatal error to not recognize the damage caused by the PST that she's foisted on people in the construction sector. Thousands of Saskatchewan people can't pay their bills. Thousands more are leaving this province, like those very tradespeople who have lost their jobs, Mr. Speaker.

The Sask Party likes to point to changes in population, but they gloss over the fact that under their watch more than 230,000 people have left Saskatchewan for other provinces, with an interprovincial net loss of over 24,000 people. This is their record: more and more people are leaving Saskatchewan for other provinces than come here from other provinces. And I've seen it first-hand with so many constituents who have lost their jobs in construction, who have been forced from the province that they know and love.

When is the Sask Party going to show some humility and take responsibility for the fact that their choices are hurting our economy and driving families and workers out of our province?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Trade.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, the facts that the member put on the floor are just wrong. The fact of the matter is the population of this province has grown over the course of the last 12 years by over 160,000 people, Mr. Speaker, a rate of growth we have not seen in this province for over 80 years.

Another reality, Mr. Speaker, is over the course of the last year, the job growth in this province has increased by 13,000. Over the course of the last 12 years, Mr. Speaker, nearly 80,000 new jobs have been created in this province, which contrasts markedly with the record of the members opposite who had the worst job creation record in the entire country during their period in office, of whom people were fleeing the province during their entire tenure, Mr. Speaker. And the policies they advocate, weekly advocate — supporting the Trudeau carbon tax, opposing pipelines — Mr. Speaker, this is a recipe for things under their watch getting way worse.

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

### Support for Education

**Ms. Beck:** — Mr. Speaker, more spin and more evidence about how out of touch that tired old government is.

And over the last few days, Mr. Speaker, I've had the opportunity to hear directly from parents and teachers about what they are seeing when it comes to the crisis in our classroom. One teacher from Moose Jaw told us, "We're so far behind. Please understand that we have a crisis." Another teacher said, "Teachers are being asked to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student group. This, coupled with an increase in class sizes, is a recipe for disaster."

Mr. Speaker, these are real issues shared by concerned and often

overwhelmed teachers. When will this minister finally admit that there is a crisis in our classroom, and better yet, start doing something about it?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, there's no crisis in our classrooms. Mr. Speaker, the STF [Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation] in their own document that they released earlier this week, Mr. Speaker, says the system's not broken. I've stood on my feet a number of times in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, acknowledging that there are some challenges in the classroom, and the STF report acknowledges that there's challenges in the classroom, Mr. Speaker.

That's why a couple of weeks ago, Mr. Speaker, I announced that we're going to move forward with a consultation with respect to class size and composition. And just an hour ago I sent a letter to a number of our partners in education asking them to name a representative to take part in that consultation, Mr. Speaker, addressing the very real issues of class composition. The terms of reference will be distributed to the members who get named to that committee, Mr. Speaker. We're asking for a first meeting, Mr. Speaker, before the end of the month, with a final report to come to me before the end of March.

So for the member opposite to suggest that this government doesn't understand the challenges that are happening in the classroom, Mr. Speaker, is just plain wrong.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — Mr. Speaker, more conversations and more spin. We're moving on without him. In every community that we go to, we're hearing the same message — the lack of support, the lack of materials, increasingly diverse needs, a growing issue of violence and bullying in our schools — it's taking a huge toll on teachers and on students. Teachers and staff put their hearts into helping their students, but they lack the support that they need. Mr. Speaker, frankly they deserve better than the very old and very tired lines from that minister.

One teacher from Prince Albert told us, "Teaching has grown to be such a heavy undertaking. I can't go to work every day and feel like a failure." Another, "Lack of respect. As a teacher I have 42 students in my class with no support from an EA." What does the minister have to say to those that his government keeps letting down?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, I've spent a . . . You know, I find it unusual, Mr. Speaker, for the member to criticize me and members of this government for engaging in conversations on a very serious issue when she's doing exactly the same thing, Mr. Speaker. We want to understand . . . Mr. Speaker, we hear no solutions from members opposite. This government is taking some concrete steps, Mr. Speaker, to deal with the very real issues of class size and composition. I've heard nothing from that member, Mr. Speaker. I've heard nothing from the STF in terms of putting a process together.

This government's going to put a process together to deal with a

very important issue that's facing teachers in our classroom, Mr. Speaker. We're going to continue to do that, Mr. Speaker, because making sure that we address the needs of our children and our classrooms is a top priority for this government.

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

**Ms. Beck:** — I guess I need to forward that minister a copy of the Re-Imagine report, and maybe ours to boot. And, Mr. Speaker, it is so sad that not broken, not broken is good enough for that Education minister. Because you know what, Minister? It is not good enough for the people of Saskatchewan. That minister ran his leadership campaign on making education a priority. He used to be a school board trustee, Mr. Speaker, and he should know better, and he should be able to recognize and admit that there is a crisis in our classrooms.

Saskatchewan people were looking to him, Mr. Speaker, for leadership on this file. And it's sad that he has failed so badly when parents and teachers and students need this government to do so much better today. How is it that that minister, who promised so much when it comes to education, has failed so badly when it comes to our children's education?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure she's read this Re-Imagine report, Mr. Speaker, because on the very last page under the heading . . .

[Interjections]

**The Speaker:** — There's opportunities to enter the debate, and they're certainly in question period. I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, under the heading in this very report, on the very last page it says, what have we learned? The system is not broken.

We have acknowledged, Mr. Speaker, that there are some challenges in our classroom, Mr. Speaker. Now that member's a former trustee as well, but she's offered no solutions, Mr. Speaker. She's offered nothing. She stands in this House day after day after day, stating that this government doesn't understand the challenges in the classroom.

And I stand up day after day acknowledging that there are challenges that we need to address, Mr. Speaker. And she's a former trustee. She's offered no solutions, Mr. Speaker. This government is offering a path forward with respect to dealing with the very real issue of class composition, Mr. Speaker. We're going to engage our sector partners in a very timely way to make sure that we can develop a path forward so that early in the new year, Mr. Speaker, we'll be able to come up with a coherent path forward, something we've not heard from those guys.

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

#### Emergency Department Wait Times

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Apparently the minister opposite failed to listen in on some of the

announcements that came out of our NDP convention this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, we've been talking about emergency room pressures for weeks now, and while the minister keeps pointing to already-announced and already-opened acute care beds as the solution, we know this is a long-standing issue that has been getting worse for years. What is really needed is a comprehensive initiative to tackle our overcrowded emergency rooms like the emergency department wait and patient-flow initiative that this government has abandoned.

Moving forward, what new measures will be implemented to make sure that Saskatchewan people get the care they need when they need it?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we've discussed a number of times in this Assembly over the past few days, we recognize how serious this situation is, primarily in Saskatoon and Regina.

Mr. Speaker, I've had constant communication with the CEO of the Saskatchewan Health Authority, as has my deputy minister. Mr. Speaker, we're allowing the officials to do their work. They're taking both short-term and long-term action, Mr. Speaker.

In the past I've spoken about some of the short-term actions, probably the most notably, patients that are in the tertiary centres that are being identified that don't necessarily have to be in the tertiary centre situation. They can be repatriated in some cases, for rural patients, back to their home communities, Mr. Speaker.

Our officials are also working long term, again as I've said many times in this Assembly. For example, one of the areas facing great strain is Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon, Mr. Speaker. There's plans under way right now — in fact the work is under way right now — for a capital project, 36-bed medicine unit that should be ready early next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I asked the minister about new measures and did not get an answer on that front.

Emergency departments used to be a priority for this government. Back when wait time reduction targets existed, this government announced targeted funding to address long waits and crowded ERs [emergency room]. But this targeted funding dwindled at a time when ER visits increased by 20 per cent because the finances of the province apparently didn't allow it.

We know the situation we find ourselves in now with our ERs bursting at the seams, with 150 people receiving care in inappropriate places. The overtime paid to staff resources across the province costs significantly more than smart investments made in the first place. How on earth did this government and this minister let things get so bad in our emergency rooms?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, as I was mentioning, I mentioned some of the short-term initiatives that are being undertaken right now to ensure that patients get proper care, Mr. Speaker. We recognize how serious this is. I mentioned the 36-bed unit being developed right now at Royal University Hospital.

[14:30]

Mr. Speaker, we're taking other long-term projects in place, Mr. Speaker, to alleviate the problem long term. I pointed to our Connected Care strategy. Our accountable care units in the hospitals in Saskatoon and Regina are showing great promise, Mr. Speaker. We have announced a number of community health centres, Mr. Speaker, in both Saskatoon and Regina. We believe that that's going to work long term. Mr. Speaker, it's important that we recognize the fact that we need to let our officials, who are well versed in patient flow in hospitals, both admissions and discharges, Mr. Speaker, do their good work to get us through a difficult situation, Mr. Speaker. We're making sure that they have the resources they need.

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

**Ms. Mowat:** — Mr. Speaker, if that were true, we wouldn't have seen that initiative abandoned. The minister knows that overcrowded emergency rooms are a symptom of problems in our health system, the canary in the coal mine of a public health system that isn't working for Saskatchewan people.

Let's look at what we've learned in just the last few days. Memos sent to staff in Saskatoon calling all hands on deck. A memo in Regina raising the alarm on staff burnout and turnover. A patient waiting a week just to get a bed. The minister's own officials say there is a crisis in our emergency rooms. Does the minister agree?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, I've said many times we recognize the urgency of the situation. We're taking steps. I've said we've made sure that officials have appropriate resources to deal with as they think appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, the leaked memos that the opposition keep coming out with aren't confidential. They're dispersed to many staff right across the health sector. We're trying to make sure that everybody's aware of the urgency of the situation, let them know what the action plans are going forward, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, one thing the member opposite did say I will agree with, Mr. Speaker, is about the growing population needing more health care services, Mr. Speaker. Because the population grew under this government, not under the NDP.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**Bill No. 183 — *The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Act, 2019***

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 183, *The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Act, 2019* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 183 be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Next sitting of the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

**Bill No. 184 — *The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Consequential Amendments Act, 2019/Loi de 2019 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Act, 2019***

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 184, *The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Consequential Amendments Act, 2019, Loi de 2019 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Act, 2019* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 184 be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — First reading. Première lecture.

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — In English, the next sitting of the House.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

**Bill No. 185 — *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur l'Assemblée législative (services de protection)***

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Trade.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No.

185 be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to consider all the remaining stages of Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* later this day on government orders.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has requested leave to consider all the remaining stages of Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* later this day on government orders. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted.

**Bill No. 186 — *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019***

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

**The Speaker:** — When shall this bill be read a second time? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to consider all the remaining stages of Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* later this day on government orders.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has requested leave to consider all the remaining stages of Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* later this day on government orders. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### GOVERNMENT ORDERS

#### SECOND READINGS

**Bill No. 185 — *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur l'Assemblée législative (services de protection)***

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* be now read a second time.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has moved second reading of Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019*. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Government House Leader that Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I designate that Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* be committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills and that the said bill be considered in Committee of the Whole on Bills later this day.

**The Speaker:** — This bill stands committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills. I recognize the Government House Leader.

#### **Bill No. 186 — *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019***

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 186 be now read a second time.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has moved second reading of Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019*. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Government House Leader that Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — I designate that Bill No. 186 be committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills and the said bill be considered in Committee of the Whole on Bills later this day.

**The Speaker:** — This bill stands committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills.

I recognize the Minister of Health.

#### **Bill No. 182 — *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019***

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I move second reading of Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019*, I'd like to make a few comments.

In developing these amendments to *The Tobacco Control Act*, the government has consulted closely with representatives from the Lung Association, Youth 4 Change, the Canadian Cancer Society, Saskatchewan Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Saskatchewan Pharmacy Association, the Ministry of Justice, and selected vape shop operators. I was proud to have many of them join with us yesterday when our government introduced these amendments. I'd also like to recognize that some of those advocates are here again today and were introduced earlier.

November is lung health awareness month. Our government is concerned about the gravity of lung disease and how tobacco and vaping products are contributing to these illnesses, particularly among the youth of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, there is growing concern about the number of people using vaping products. I share these concerns, particularly when I see young people targeted through advertising. The rise in popularity of vaping is troubling and it's with this in mind that the Government of Saskatchewan has proposed Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019*. Through these amendments to *The Tobacco Control Act*, our government is taking necessary steps to protect the health of Saskatchewan people by ensuring vaping devices, products, and restrictions on use align with the regulations for tobacco products in use.

Specifically these amendments will restrict the sale of vapour and e-cigarette devices and products to individuals 18 years of age and older; prohibit the display of vapour and e-cigarette products in a retail business where young persons have access; restrict the use of vapour and e-cigarette products in and around public buildings, including schools and school grounds, in the same

manner as our provincial tobacco legislation; prohibit the sale of vapour and e-cigarette products from specified facilities such as amusement parks, arcades, and theatres where youth frequent; restrict advertising of vapour and e-cigarette products in the same manner as tobacco products by prohibiting advertising signs and promotional signs in areas where young persons can enter; provide the ability to restrict the sale of flavoured tobacco and vapour products by regulation; and expand the authority of tobacco enforcement officers to include enforcement of vapour and e-cigarette product restrictions.

Mr. Speaker, this government is committed to building a healthier Saskatchewan and placing vape products and use on par with tobacco is vital to seeing this commitment realized. We believe these amendments to *The Tobacco Control Act* will do a great deal to protect Saskatchewan residents and reduce the use of vaping products, most notably among our province's young people. We also look forward to our continued consultations with our stakeholders and to the upcoming work on regulations.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to move the second reading of Bill 133, *The Tobacco Control Act*, 2019. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Health has moved second reading of Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act*, 2019. Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise today to enter into second reading debate on this piece of legislation. Overall I want to state that we are supportive of this bill and the work that it is doing to protect the youth across the province. We've urged the minister back in June to take action, by writing a formal letter. And since then we've continued to learn even more in news stories that have come out about the health risks and respirologists that are speaking out about some of the dangers of vaping. And we know that at the same time there has been a skyrocketing uptake of vaping with youth across this province.

Our first request on that letter, back in June, was for the minister to treat vaping like smoking in terms of the display, use, and sale of e-cigarettes. So we're very happy to see this bill move forward. We know that there is a lot more work to do, and we want to thank the advocates who have been really working to educate all of us in this Assembly on this important matter. But with that, we're happy to see this bill move forward today.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act*, 2019 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

**The Speaker:** — To which committee shall this bill be committed? I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — I designate that Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act*, 2019 be committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills to be considered later this day.

**The Speaker:** — This bill stands committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills. I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to consider the remaining stage of Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act*, 2019 later this day.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Health has requested leave to consider the remaining stage of Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act*, 2019 later this day. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Committee of the Whole.

**The Speaker:** — I do now leave the Chair for the Assembly to go into the Committee of the Whole on Bills.

[14:45]

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BILLS

##### **Bill No. 185 — *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur l'Assemblée législative (services de protection)***

**The Chair:** — The item of business before the committee is Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act*, 2019. Clause 1, is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[Clauses 1 to 6 inclusive agreed to.]

**The Chair:** — Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows: Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act*, 2019.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move that the committee report the bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the committee report Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act*, 2019 without amendment. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. Is the committee ready for the next item of business?

**Bill No. 186 — *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019***

**The Chair:** — The next item of business before the committee is Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019*. Clause 1, is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive agreed to.]

**The Chair:** — Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows: Bill 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019*.

I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move that the committee report the bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — The Government House Leader has moved that the committee report Bill 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

**Bill No. 182 — *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019***

**The Chair:** — The last item of business before the committee is Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019*. Clause 1, short title, is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[Clauses 1 to 24 inclusive agreed to.]

**The Chair:** — Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly, enacts as follows: Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019*.

I recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — I move that the committee report the bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — The Minister of Health has moved that Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move

that the committee rise, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again.

**The Chair:** — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the committee rise, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of Committees.

**Mr. Hart:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader may proceed to move third reading.

### THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 185 — *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur l'Assemblée législative (services de protection)***

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that Bill No. 185, *The Legislative Assembly (Protective Services) Amendment Act, 2019* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of Committees.

**Mr. Hart:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed to report Bill No. 185, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — Let's just amend this, Mr. Chair — 186.

**Mr. Hart:** — I am instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader may proceed to move third reading.



**Bill No. 186 — *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019***

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that Bill No. 186, *The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2019* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of Committees.

**Mr. Hart:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Health may proceed to move third reading.

**Bill No. 182 — *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019***

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that Bill No. 182, *The Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2019* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

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

**ADJOURNED DEBATES**

**SECOND READINGS**

**Bill No. 179**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Marit that **Bill No. 179 — *The Apiaries Amendment Act, 2019*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise this afternoon and enter into the debate around Bill No. 179, *An Act to amend The Apiaries Act*. I don't have much to add into the discussion around this bill. I know my colleague, the member for Regina Northeast, will probably have a lot more to say about this than I will, as he is the expert in all things bees and beekeeping. So he will have much more understanding of what this legislation is seeking to do and what makes the most sense for those who work within this industry. From what I understand, this bill is seeking to remove some duplication in terms of registration amongst beekeepers, Mr. Speaker. That makes sense, but we're going to look into this, into the consultation that had been done with respect to this bill just to make sure that all the appropriate consultations that were done have been.

It looks like, in reviewing the minister's remarks, that that is the case, Mr. Speaker. A lot of these changes are largely housekeeping in nature. As such, it is our duty as legislators to ensure that the legislation is properly up to date and modernized, Mr. Speaker, so that makes sense to do as well. This bill is replacing the apiary certificate with a premises registration and then will cancel the certificate that was previously required of beekeepers. Like I said, that's in an effort to prevent the duplication that already exists.

And then it will also introduce the procedures regarding beekeeping equipment to allow for effective time-saving technique of open feeding bees, Mr. Speaker. I'm not an expert on the effective time-saving technique of open feeding bees, but I'm looking forward to hearing what the member from Regina Northeast has to say about that, Mr. Speaker. I know I have not just that colleague, but other colleagues who are going to want to enter into the debate around Bill No. 179. So at this point I'm prepared to adjourn debate on this bill, Mr. Speaker.

[15:00]

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Bill No. 180**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Carr that **Bill No. 180 — *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Government Relations — Transfer of Gas, Electrical and Plumbing Functions) Amendment Act, 2019*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise today to enter into the debate around Bill No. 180, the miscellaneous statutes amendment Act. This bill, Mr. Speaker, will amend several Acts to add some consistent language with all technical safety statutes providing for the Crown. This includes

*The Gas Licensing Act, The Gas Inspection Act, The Electrical Licensing Act, The Electrical Inspection Act, The Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan Act, Mr. Speaker, The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act, The Public Health Act, and The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act, Mr. Speaker.*

It's also going to clarify that the responsibility for these legislations will fall under the Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan, or TSASK, Mr. Speaker, with the Minister of Government Relations as the authority responsible for the enforcement of the legislation, and also updates the processes and penalty amounts to be consistent with other similar type of legislation, Mr. Speaker.

We are going to be consulting, the critic will be consulting to ensure that the work has been done so that the government fully understands what the implications are with respect to these changes. And we'll be asking questions around TSASK and whether or not TSASK is prepared and equipped appropriately to be able to handle this new load that they are going to be faced with as a result of this legislation.

I know I have other colleagues of mine who are interested in entering into the debate around this bill, so to facilitate that, Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to adjourn debate on Bill No. 180.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

### Bill No. 181

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Eyre that **Bill No. 181 — *The Mineral Taxation (Modernization) Amendment Act, 2019*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Ms. Sarauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise today to enter into the debate around Bill No. 181, the mineral taxation amendment Act. Mr. Speaker, this bill does many different things. It introduces the electronic management system to administer mineral tax rights. It will also add some new definitions for the EMS [electronic management system] including electronic signature. It will change the way the area of mineral titles is determined. It changes the procedures regarding the extent of ownership of a mineral title. And it will determine that the owner of mineral rights pay a tax calculated at a prescribed rate. As such, this legislation will move the tax rate from the Act itself into the regulations.

Whenever something is moving, Mr. Speaker, from Acts to the regulations, it does cause us to ask more questions because this will be essentially our only chance to scrutinize this. When something is updated or changed in regulations, Mr. Speaker, as you well know, it doesn't go through this type of process with second reading debates and whatnot. It simply is passed by way

of order in council, so it doesn't receive the level of scrutiny that we're able to provide here from legislative changes, Mr. Speaker.

So we will be asking questions around that. Why is the tax rate moving from the Act to the regulations? I can understand that it's much easier and quicker to make changes when that happens, therefore the government will be able to respond to market needs and government needs a little bit faster. But again when something moves from the Act to regulations, it does impair our ability as an opposition to be able to scrutinize the future changes that will happen to that in particular, Mr. Speaker. So we will be asking some questions around that.

Now from what I understand, a bill of a similar name was tabled back this last spring. We're curious to know what changes have actually occurred between April and now. I know that the critic for this bill and my colleague will be doing some work in terms of looking into that and determining what the changes were, why this change was needed, and why this change wasn't done back in April, as well as his regular work in terms of ensuring that the stakeholders have been appropriately consulted and that they are on board and supportive with this legislation.

There are a lot of unknowns with respect to this legislation. Again when you move something from the Act to regulations, it does leave a lot of questions and a lot of unknowns. We want to ensure that there is certainty for those who work within this sector, and owners of mineral rights in particular, Mr. Speaker.

There are many of my colleagues who also want to enter into this debate around this important piece of legislation, and in order to facilitate that I am prepared to adjourn debate on Bill 181.

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

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Request leave to make a statement.

**The Speaker:** — The minister has requested leave to make a statement. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the minister.

### STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

#### Apology for Release of Information

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Mr. Speaker, it's come to my attention a few minutes ago that several minutes before the vaping legislation was passed in the House that inadvertently a news release went out announcing it. Mr. Speaker, that was done in error and I would apologize to this House for that error.

### ADJOURNED DEBATES

#### SECOND READINGS

#### Bill No. 174

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 174 — *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act,***

*2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur l'exécution des ordonnances alimentaires* be now read a second time.]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Cumberland.

**Mr. Vermette:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To join in on Bill No. 174, *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2019*. Many of us know that sometimes maintenance orders are put out there to help children and families who, for whatever reason, separate. But orders are taken out, calculations are determined, and the amount of pay. There is of course an organization that works on behalf of the province to collect child payments that are due to the children, but to one of the spouses or whoever's taking care of the children, those payments are there.

What we see in this . . . And I'm not going to get into a lot of it because what this actually ends up correcting is giving more powers I think to maintenance staff and those individuals who work within maintenance orders. And what it does is, I believe they used to have to request information, banking; there was certain things they could do. Now what this gives is more ability to look at accounts and look into banking information, financial information of a certain person that owes allowances. And that also talks about in here, doing some recalculations and making sure payments. And I guess also it would probably give them the powers, I'm thinking. And I guess, you know, the minister will clarify in committee.

We might have some questions, but it might be more of asking, do they have certain powers to take those dollars, garnisheeing of a bank or a thing like others do? I know that it happens. So there might be provisions in there and some of that. And like I said, we'll in committee work that out and we'll get an opportunity to ask people how this will impact them.

By the way, to me it looks like a positive piece of legislation. It's just trying to give dollars that were allocated, making sure the calculation is done properly, having the information from the maintenance department that has the current information on banking and income of individuals and resources, is what I've got from this.

So really I have no problems with that and I don't think on our side of it we have at this point, from my understanding of what we look at. And we may have some more questions and people may reach out to us but other than that, at this point I'm prepared to adjourn debate on Bill 174.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

#### Bill No. 175

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 175 — *The Marriage Amendment Act, 2019/Loi modificative de 2019 sur le mariage*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll enter in briefly here this afternoon with respect to Bill No. 175, *The Marriage Amendment Act*.

This bill takes on various changes. It permits an interested person to challenge the legal validity of a marriage in the Court of Queen's Bench if there is a presumption that "one of the parties to a marriage did not provide valid consent to enter into the contract of marriage." I understand that it updates the language used throughout the legislation. Certainly updating language in legislation's important.

I understand it removes the reference to the family service Act. That likely comes from, you know . . . It's probably very practical, but we'll certainly be seeking some clarity with stakeholders and at committee on that front. It prohibits the marriage of a person under 16, allows the marriage commissioner to charge a fee agreed upon by both parties and the commissioner for a marriage ceremony.

In Saskatchewan I know MLAs, we're not authorized as marriage commissioners. I think in . . . I think it's Alberta. In Alberta, I believe, MLAs have that responsibility. So not that I'm looking for that responsibility. I know a Commissioner for Oaths. But I just brought that point out because I know I have a friend out in Alberta that presides over marriages. But I know we're not able to do that here nor am I advocating that that change be made.

I believe this also establishes that in case the validity of a contract of marriage is challenged, the court may require either or both of the parties to the marriage to be examined before the court or submitted to medical examination.

So there's a few changes here. I think that there is a . . . As I understand and as our Justice critic, a lawyer and the member for Douglas Park, has entered into this already, she has stated that there are significant consequences of this bill though that may be unintended or not contemplated by government. And certainly that can happen. You've certain aims that you're wanting to address, certain intentions, but there can be a set of unintended consequences and I think that may be the case in this legislation.

Certainly our Justice critic has identified some concerns that might be sort of cascading impacts due to the change that's been brought about here. And certainly that's why this will be important for us to listen to stakeholders. We invite any and all stakeholders to engage at this important time and certainly we'll seek clarity from the minister at committee, get a better understanding of the process of this government to derive this legislation. And certainly our Justice critic will be able to get a better understanding of what she feels may be unintended consequences or impacts that might not be desirable as a result of this legislation.

So at this point in time I'll adjourn debate with respect to Bill No. 175, *The Marriage Amendment Act, 2019*.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Bill No. 176**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 176** — *The Fiduciaries Access to Digital Information Act/Loi sur l'accès des fiduciaires à l'information numérique* be now read a second time.]

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Just getting some last-minute advice on my remarks from my colleague from Rosemont. And I just want to state for the record, I will not be apologizing and resigning off the top. We'll see about the end, but you know, you've always got to leave them wanting more, Mr. Speaker.

[15:15]

But certainly Bill No. 176, *The Fiduciaries Access to Digital Information Act*, Mr. Speaker, you say it slow, it's like a prayer. It's quite a piece of legislation. And again I've long suspected, Mr. Speaker, that over there in the Ministry of Justice, the home of the drafting people, that they tend to generate a few more bills than the average ministry, Mr. Speaker.

And that being said, this particular bill determines the conditions under which the fiduciary may have access and manage the digital assets of their clients. Tell me more you say, Mr. Speaker? Well okay. Establishes that the duties of the fiduciary regarding digital assets are not different of those related to tangible personal property. It outlines the duties of the fiduciary. It determines that a fiduciary has the right to require access to digital assets in case these later are managed by a custodian. It determines that the rights of access of the fiduciary is subject to any restrictions set out in the will of the deceased owner and it provides protection against liability for custodians who provide access in accordance with the Act.

Mr. Speaker, you know, I hear from different of my friends who have gone through law school, are lawyers, they often recall fondly their time in property law classes, Mr. Speaker, and I can only presume that it's that kind of joy and delight that comes into evidence with a piece of legislation like this.

Again, Mr. Speaker, this comes from the fount of great legislation. It's got that Uniform Law Conference seal of good housekeeping, Mr. Speaker. Out of the 2016 batch of recommendations, it keeps up with the ever-changing digital world that we live in, Mr. Speaker, and the digital revolution. All good stuff. And, Mr. Speaker, we'll certainly be looking to do the work of a diligent opposition, making certain that the law of unintended consequences is not to the fore versus to the aft in this one, Mr. Speaker.

I know that other of my colleagues will certainly want to be participating in this debate, perhaps better informed than I, or know perhaps about it. Certainly likely better informed than I on this matter, Mr. Speaker.

And with that, I would move to . . . For a moment I thought Cannington was rushing the dais, but no such occurrence. But bench-clearing afternoon here in the House, who knows? Who knows?

Mr. Speaker, with that I would move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 176, *The Fiduciaries Access to Digital Information Act*.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Bill No. 177**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 177** — *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Electronic Register) Amendment Act, 2019* be now read a second time.]

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

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to enter into debate today on Bill No. 177, *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Electronic Register) Amendment Act, 2019*. It might sound like quite a mouthful, but I think it is aptly named, Mr. Speaker. There are 40 Acts being amended here, and the purpose of these amendments is to permit these occupational and professional organizations to make their register or their list of members available to the public in any manner that would include but not mandate electronic format.

So in Saskatchewan we know we have over 45 occupational and professional organizations. These organizations are regulated by legislation and it sets out the basic criteria for self-regulation. It gives the organizations the authority to create bylaws as well. So it sort of structures what those rules look like.

It certainly makes sense to me. It's 2019 and these organizations should be able to post their membership online. It seems like something that we could have been approving back in 2009. So it certainly makes sense to me, Mr. Speaker, because the public should be able to see whether an individual is a member of one of these organizations. So I think in terms of the public interest, it certainly makes sense.

We also know that, according to the minister's second reading speech, several organizations have been calling for this ability. So it seems that these changes in legislation have been called for by a number of the organizations who, rather than keeping a list held centrally at their office, would like to be able to communicate to folks in other formats, which include online posting but are not limited to online posting and don't mandate online posting as well and could also be through an app on someone's smartphone, which we seem to all be carrying around these days, Mr. Speaker.

I know that many of my colleagues will want to enter into this discussion. We'll certainly be looking to see if there are any unintended consequences that are brought up by this bill or if

there is any concern from stakeholders, Mr. Speaker. I know that the critic will have more questions in committee, but with that I would move to adjourn debate on Bill 177.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

### Bill No. 178

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Morgan that **Bill No. 178 — *The Miscellaneous Statutes Repeal Act, 2019*** be now read a second time.]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Cumberland.

**Mr. Vermette:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, to join in on debate 178, *The Miscellaneous Statutes Repeal Act, 2019*. Overall there isn't a lot in here, Mr. Speaker. But what it does in nature is mainly housekeeping, repealing a bunch of different Acts that the government wants to repeal, and that's what this piece of legislation does. It just, like I said earlier, it's mainly housekeeping.

And I know if there's any questions we have, we'll have an opportunity to ask the minister in committee. I know the critic and our colleagues will have that opportunity, should there be some questions that should arise with repealing any parts of the legislation that this Act will repeal.

So at this time, Mr. Speaker, I don't have a lot more to say about it. So at this time I'm prepared to adjourn debate on Bill 178.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

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

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:24.]

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