

FIRST SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

## Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

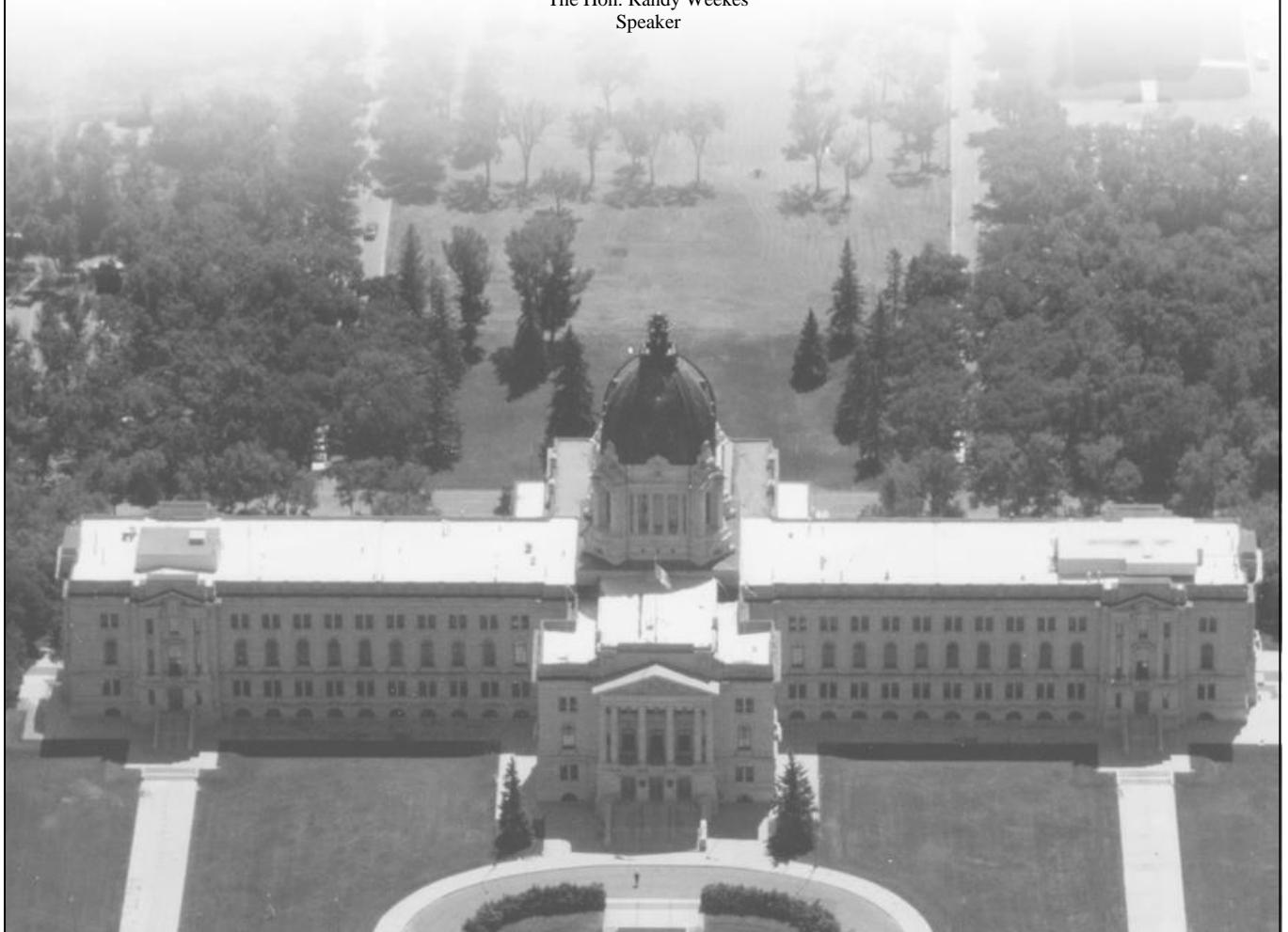
---

# DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

---

(HANSARD)

Published under the  
authority of  
The Hon. Randy Weekes  
Speaker



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**1st Session — 29th Legislature**

**Lieutenant Governor** — His Honour the Honourable Russ Mirasty, S.O.M., M.S.M.

**Speaker** — Hon. Randy Weekes  
**Premier** — Hon. Scott Moe  
**Leader of the Opposition** — Ryan Meili

**Beck, Carla** — Regina Lakeview (NDP)  
**Belanger, Buckley** — Athabasca (NDP)  
**Bonk, Steven** — Moosomin (SP)  
**Bowes, Jennifer** — Saskatoon University (NDP)  
**Bradshaw, Fred** — Carrot River Valley (SP)  
**Buckingham, David** — Saskatoon Westview (SP)  
**Carr, Hon. Lori** — Estevan (SP)  
**Cheveldayoff, Ken** — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)  
**Cockrill, Jeremy** — The Battlefords (SP)  
**Conway, Meara** — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP)  
**Dennis, Terry** — Canora-Pelly (SP)  
**Docherty, Mark** — Regina Coronation Park (SP)  
**Domotor, Ryan** — Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP)  
**Duncan, Hon. Dustin** — Weyburn-Big Muddy (SP)  
**Eyre, Hon. Bronwyn** — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP)  
**Fiaz, Muhammad** — Regina Pasqua (SP)  
**Francis, Ken** — Kindersley (SP)  
**Friesen, Marv** — Saskatoon Riversdale (SP)  
**Goudy, Todd** — Melfort (SP)  
**Grewal, Gary** — Regina Northeast (SP)  
**Hargrave, Hon. Joe** — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)  
**Harbauer, Hon. Donna** — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)  
**Harrison, Daryl** — Cannington (SP)  
**Harrison, Hon. Jeremy** — Meadow Lake (SP)  
**Hindley, Hon. Everett** — Swift Current (SP)  
**Jenson, Terry** — Martensville-Warman (SP)  
**Kaeding, Hon. Warren** — Melville-Saltcoats (SP)  
**Keisig, Travis** — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)  
**Kirsch, Delbert** — Batoche (SP)  
**Lambert, Lisa** — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)  
**Lawrence, Greg** — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)

**Love, Matt** — Saskatoon Eastview (NDP)  
**Makowsky, Hon. Gene** — Regina Gardiner Park (SP)  
**Marit, Hon. David** — Wood River (SP)  
**McLeod, Tim** — Moose Jaw North (SP)  
**McMorris, Hon. Don** — Indian Head-Milestone (SP)  
**Meili, Ryan** — Saskatoon Meewasin (NDP)  
**Merriman, Hon. Paul** — Saskatoon Silverspring-Sutherland (SP)  
**Meyers, Derek** — Regina Walsh Acres (SP)  
**Moe, Hon. Scott** — Rosthern-Shellbrook (SP)  
**Morgan, Hon. Don** — Saskatoon Southeast (SP)  
**Mowat, Vicki** — Saskatoon Fairview (NDP)  
**Nerlien, Hugh** — Kelvington-Wadena (SP)  
**Nippi-Albright, Betty** — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)  
**Ottenbreit, Greg** — Yorkton (SP)  
**Reiter, Hon. Jim** — Rosetown-Elrose (SP)  
**Ritchie, Erika** — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP)  
**Ross, Alana** — Prince Albert Northcote (SP)  
**Ross, Hon. Laura** — Regina Rochdale (SP)  
**Sarauer, Nicole** — Regina Douglas Park (NDP)  
**Skoropad, Dana** — Arm River (SP)  
**Steele, Doug** — Cypress Hills (SP)  
**Stewart, Hon. Lyle** — Lumsden-Morse (SP)  
**Tell, Hon. Christine** — Regina Wascana Plains (SP)  
**Vermette, Doyle** — Cumberland (NDP)  
**Weekes, Hon. Randy** — Biggar-Sask Valley (SP)  
**Wilson, Nadine** — Saskatchewan Rivers (SP)  
**Wotherspoon, Trent** — Regina Rosemont (NDP)  
**Wyant, Hon. Gordon** — Saskatoon Northwest (SP)  
**Young, Aleana** — Regina University (NDP)  
**Young, Colleen** — Lloydminster (SP)

---

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

**Clerks-at-the-Table**

**Clerk** — Gregory A. Putz

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

**Principal Clerk** — Iris Lang

**Clerk Assistant** — Kathy Burianyk

**Sergeant-at-Arms** — Terry Quinn

**Hansard on the internet**

*Hansard* and other documents of the  
Legislative Assembly are available  
within hours after each sitting.

<https://www.legassembly.sk.ca/Calendar>

## CONTENTS

<b>ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS</b>	
<b>PRESENTING PETITIONS</b>	
Meyers .....	245
<b>STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS</b>	
Precautions for Santa's Visit	
Meili .....	245
Distillery Entrepreneurs Successful on <i>Dragon's Den</i>	
Skoropad .....	245
Remembering John Millar	
Young, A. ....	245
Maymont Boy Receives Multivisceral Transplant	
Cockrill .....	246
Canada Health Transfer Funding	
Ottenbreit .....	246
Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer	
Reiter .....	246
Christmas Hope	
Harpauer .....	246
<b>QUESTION PERIOD</b>	
Government Response to COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities	
Meili .....	247
Hindley .....	247, 250
Love .....	250
Government Response to COVID-19 Pandemic	
Meili .....	248
Harrison .....	248
COVID-19 and Indigenous Communities	
Nippi-Albright .....	248
Merriman .....	248
Energy Efficiency in Saskatchewan	
Ritchie .....	249
Kaeding .....	249
<b>INTRODUCTION OF BILLS</b>	
Bill No. 20 — <i>The Publicly-funded Health Entity Public Interest Disclosure Act</i>	
Merriman .....	251
Bill No. 21 — <i>The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Tell .....	251
Bill No. 22 — <i>The Credit Union Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Wyant .....	251
Bill No. 23 — <i>The Emergency Planning Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Wyant .....	252
Bill No. 24 — <i>The Vehicles for Hire Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Morgan .....	252
<b>PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES</b>	
Standing Committee on Private Bills	
Steele .....	252
<b>ORDERS OF THE DAY</b>	
<b>GOVERNMENT ORDERS</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE OF FINANCE</b>	
Motions for Supply	
Harpauer .....	252
<b>FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS</b>	
Harpauer .....	253
<b>APPROPRIATION BILL</b>	
Bill No. 25 — <i>The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)</i>	
Harpauer .....	253
<b>SECOND READINGS</b>	
Bill No. 1 — <i>The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Harpauer .....	253
Wotherspoon .....	253
Bill No. 2 — <i>The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020</i>	
Harpauer .....	254
Young, A. ....	254

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BILLS

Bill No. 1 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020* .....255

Bill No. 2 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* .....255

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 1 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*

Harrison, J. ....256

Bill No. 2 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*

Harrison, J. ....256

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Acknowledgements and Christmas Greetings

Harrison, J. ....256

Mowat .....257

The Speaker.....258

ROYAL ASSENT .....259

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

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

I'd like to read the prayer:

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

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

### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

#### Precautions for Santa's Visit

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this our last sitting day before the holiday season, I'd like to rise and extend good health and good cheer to all the members of this House and everyone across Saskatchewan. Hanukkah begins tonight, and in a fortnight it will be Christmas.

And I wish to raise a pressing issue with the Premier today regarding an older fella in a snazzy suit. And I'm not referring to any of the members opposite. But no, it's a fellow by the name of Santa Claus — jolly old St. Nick. We recognize that this year Christmas will be quite a lot different for Saskatchewan children, and we must make extra efforts to welcome our portly and generous guest.

Today the official opposition calls on the Premier to waive the 14 day self-isolation requirement for international travel for Mr. Claus; and further, Mr. Speaker, given the essential nature of his work, that the Premier extend the wage top-up for essential workers, perhaps in the form of added milk and cookies.

And of course we know that Mr. Claus will be visiting many homes around the world. He's not in our bubble. So that's why I ask all members to join me today reminding Saskatchewan children, especially the two children that live in my house, that Santa needs his physical distance and so they must remain in bed until at least 6 o'clock on Christmas morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Merry Christmas.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Arm River.

#### Distillery Entrepreneurs Successful on *Dragon's Den*

**Mr. Skoropad:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. February 2017 was an important date for the village of Brownlee, a community of 55 within my constituency of Arm River. You see it was on that date that two young entrepreneurs, Adam Dombowsky and Sacha Elez, purchased a vacant rink for \$1 and chased their dream of creating a distillery in rural Saskatchewan. And so Smooth 42 was born.

Mr. Speaker, like many, Adam and Sacha's venture was beginning to flourish when the COVID pandemic hit and derailed their plans. In true Saskatchewan spirit, these two young men saw the need for hand sanitizers and temporarily shifted their focus to combat the virus.

More recently, Adam and Sacha took their entire beverage and hand sanitizer product line on the road to appear on CBC's [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation] *Dragons' Den* to pitch their business idea. Mr. Speaker, following 45 gruelling minutes in front of the dragons, these two innovative entrepreneurs based out of little Brownlee did Saskatchewan proud and got exactly what they came for. Adam and Sacha reached a deal with Michele Romanow and Arlene Dickinson receiving \$150,000 for 15 per cent equity stake in their business.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask all members to help me in congratulating Adam and Sacha of Smooth 42 on their success in the den and wish them all the best in the future. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina University.

#### Remembering John Millar

**Ms. A. Young:** — Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a great friend and colleague to many of us on this side of the House. John Millar died on November 29th, 2020. And for those who don't know, John was one of the many people who have worked hundreds of hours in this legislature. He worked for years in the opposition caucus office the last time the New Democrats were in government, Mr. Speaker, preparing press releases and writing speeches after he got his start as a speechwriter for Roy Romanow.

When New Democrats won government in 1991, he worked in a variety of offices, including media services and executive council, finishing his career as director of communications at the Saskatchewan Transportation Company. John is remembered as a creative writing political analyst and curmudgeon. And I will remember him as my campaign manager in 2016, although he did manage a number of campaigns for many others, including Andrew Thomson, former minister.

Others will remember John for being so frustrated with technology he nearly threw a telex machine through a window. This frustration extended to laptops, as I fondly remember.

2020 has been a tough year, especially for those of us who have lost a loved one or a friend. And I'll ask all members to pause for a moment to remember John Millar and all those who we've lost in a particularly difficult year for grieving.

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

### **Maymont Boy Receives Multivisceral Transplant**

**Mr. Cockrill:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to tell this Assembly today about a brave young boy and his family from the Maymont area. Mr. Speaker, Nate Starycki was born in 2008 with gastroschisis and has spent a large part of his life in the hospital. After enduring years of ups and downs as medical professionals worked to repair his digestive system, it was decided that Nate would need a multivisceral transplant.

Mr. Speaker, Nate is an incredibly positive young man and has started an online apparel company to raise money for other families in the same position. To this point, Nate and his family have raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation and become vocal advocates for organ donation.

Nate underwent the 14-hour operation on November 28th in Toronto and is now recovering. Mr. Speaker, I would like the Starycki family to know that they are in our prayers. And the support from the community in the Battlefords is amazing to see as we cheer on this little guy and hope to have him back home soon. I would ask all members to please join me in wishing Nate a strong recovery and strength to his parents as they stay with him in the hospital to see him through. Thank you.

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

### **Canada Health Transfer Funding**

**Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stand here, our Premier is taking part in an incredibly important conversation regarding the future of the Canada Health Transfer during today's meetings of the Canada first ministers. The Premier's message on the topic is clear. It's past time that the Prime Minister took serious action to address the unanimous concern of the Canada premiers regarding consistent underfunding of Canada's health system.

Provincial governments across Canada have consistently communicated that the country needs an immediate and sustained injection to the Canada Health Transfer to bring the federal share up to 35 per cent. Medicare was based on the principle of 50/50 funding, Mr. Speaker, but the federal contribution has not kept pace over the years, and now the Canada Health Transfer only accounts for 22 per cent of our health care spending.

Rising health care cost drivers are putting unsustainable financial pressures on provinces and territories, and while this was true before a global pandemic, it's more important now than ever that federal funding keep pace with these cost pressures. Our government agrees with the Council of the Federation's position that adequate sustainable Canada Health Transfer funding would give provinces and territories the ability to provide health services that Canada expects.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer**

**Hon. Mr. Reiter:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm happy to have an opportunity to say thank you to our health care professionals across the province for the work they do for all of us every day, but especially during the COVID pandemic.

I also want to specifically thank a man who has helped navigate us through what is one of the most difficult times in our province's history — Dr. Saqib Shahab, the chief medical health officer for the province of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, I know how hard some days have been for him. But each day, with a cheery disposition, he continues to put in long hours to keep our citizens safe.

Mr. Speaker, before his time in the ministry, Dr. Shahab worked as a regional medical health officer and served as a public health expert with multilateral health and donor agencies. Among his very impressive credentials are a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University, and he's a member of the Royal College of Physicians in the UK [United Kingdom].

As we approach the end of 2020, we're not out of the woods yet, Mr. Speaker. But fortunately vaccines are on the way and we are confident that under the direction of Dr. Shahab we will make it through, and for that we thank him.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Shahab chose Saskatchewan as his home and Saskatchewan chose Dr. Shahab as our doctor. I hope Santa leaves Dr. Shahab a new cardigan under the tree and at some point that the new year is far less busy for him. I ask all members to join me in thanking Dr. Saqib Shahab for all the good work he has done and for all the good work he is about to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Christmas Hope**

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Christmas is the time of year we celebrate the gift of God wrapped in Jesus. Born to a young woman far from her home, far from her family, far from her friends, born in a stable on the back side of an inn. Hay for a mattress, feeding trough for a bed, fit with all the aroma and comforts of a barn. No phones or Facebook to announce his arrival or a CSA [Canadian Standards Association]-approved car seat to carry him home. But that young gift was the hope for her tomorrow, and, Mr. Speaker, that gift is my hope for tomorrow.

The famous Christmas hymn says it well:

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Today our world is looking for a thrill of hope in our weary world. Hope, Mr. Speaker, is what I have for a new day coming. Jesus did not come to change the external circumstances of the world, Mr. Speaker, but the internal attitudes of our hearts.

Not many people know it, Mr. Speaker, but I had the privilege of being born to loving parents in a home without electricity, without running water. We heated our house with wood and coal, and my mother cooked our meals on a wood stove. Looking back,

Christmas was not about what we didn't have, Mr. Speaker, but rather about what we did have. We were rich; I was rich.

Now this year with all our necessary regulations, it may seem like the Grinch is attempting to steal our Christmas. But as it went in the Dr. Seuss story, "No one could steal Christmas when it lived in their hearts." And no one can steal Christmas when Christ lives in ours.

So on behalf of myself, the Premier, and the provincial government, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a hope for a better new year.

### QUESTION PERIOD

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

#### Government Response to COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been 11 deaths to date during the tragic outbreak at Parkside Extendicare. There are over 200 positive cases between staff and residents.

Three weeks ago we called for urgent action to staff up in long-term care and protect seniors. The government's rationale for not acting at the time was to say, and I quote, "Saskatchewan is not seeing outbreaks in long-term care facilities similar to those in other jurisdictions," as though we were somehow immune to this happening here.

Well, Mr. Speaker, those outbreaks that public health experts, that Saskatchewan doctors warned about, they're here. When will this government stop stalling, stop downplaying, and start acting to protect seniors in long-term care?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hindley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would begin by extending my deepest condolences to all of those friends and family of those who have passed away as a result of COVID-19, including those in our care facilities across this province, Mr. Speaker.

We have taken this situation and this issue very seriously on this side of the House. It's why, dating back into March and even prior to that, we worked very closely with Dr. Shahab and his team with respect to providing restrictions and measures in place that would protect the most vulnerable people in this province, including those senior citizens across Saskatchewan at our long-term care facilities and our personal care homes right across this province, Mr. Speaker.

And we are proud of the work that is being done there. We're proud of the health care professionals that are providing this outstanding level of care for our senior citizens. And as the situation continues to rapidly evolve, Mr. Speaker, we'll continue to provide as much support and any support that's required to keep those residents safe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[10:15]

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's extremely disappointing to hear no significant measures, no change in an approach that's failing. We're hearing of new outbreaks at Moose Jaw Extendicare, about an outbreak at Pioneer Village, and positive cases among those transferred to Pioneer from Parkside. Will the minister tell us the whole story? How many outbreaks are there in long-term care facilities? How many staff and residents have tested positive? How many seniors have died from COVID-19 in total, and how many will it take before this government is willing to take serious action to protect our loved ones?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hindley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the number of confirmed outbreaks in long-term care facilities, the current number is 14. That's the most current information that we have available as of today, Mr. Speaker.

We have taken a number of steps to try to ensure the safety of the residents of these care homes, whether it's some of the restrictions that Dr. Shahab has asked all of us across this province to follow in order to prevent the spread, the community transmission, of COVID-19 into care homes such as we are seeing today.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in November our province received a number of the Abbott Panbio tests from the federal government. As of December 1st, a number of these tests were distributed to eight long-term care facilities as part of a pilot project, Mr. Speaker. Some of these have also been provided to the Extendicare facilities in the province, Mr. Speaker. In addition to that, this is why in the vaccine rollout we announced earlier this week that one of the priority areas of our population to be first vaccinated is the senior citizens of this province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're hearing reports of many more outbreaks than are reported with those 14. Hundreds of residents, hundreds of staff that are positive, and sadly many people have lost their lives in recent weeks. And I fear we will see more. These outbreaks, this situation was predictable and it was preventable.

We called for action three weeks ago when this government finally made the modelling public and made people aware of exactly what we are facing and yet, still chose not to act. This government had that information far sooner than the public did. Why? Why did they refuse to staff up in long-term care and protect seniors? Why did they refuse the call for a circuit breaker that could have avoided these tragic events?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hindley:** — Mr. Speaker, thank you for the question. As I said earlier, we're very concerned about the situation, this rapidly evolving situation at the Extendicare facility here in

Regina, as well as other facilities around the province.

Mr. Speaker, we have been providing support. The SHA [Saskatchewan Health Authority] has been providing support as necessary. As we heard earlier this week, the SHA has entered into a co-management agreement with Extendicare with respect to the Parkside facility here in Regina for the next 30 days with the option to provide additional support after that point in time, if required. We've heard that Parkside has reached out to the Regina Fire Department for a number of paramedics that are providing supports there as well.

Mr. Speaker, we have confidence in our health care providers. We are confident that between the arrangement involving the SHA and Extendicare that they'll be able to manage this situation appropriately. But that being said, Mr. Speaker, we do recognize that this is a serious point in time with respect to this pandemic and making sure that we provide as much protection and care for the seniors in our long-term care facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Government Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

**Mr. Meili:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Disastrous and fully avoidable circumstances with outbreaks, a serious outbreak at Parkside and outbreaks across Saskatchewan in long-term care. The members opposite have been trying . . . they've been tying themselves in knots, tying themselves in knots to explain why they wouldn't follow a reasonable evidence-based approach — our plan — that between the available federal funding and new provincial funding would've made sure that businesses and their employees were paid and able to make it through that brief but necessary circuit-breaker period.

Now instead, because this government chose not to act, we face more cases, more deaths, more hardship, and more uncertainty for businesses and for their employees as we face the potential of longer term lockdowns and much more serious consequences. Mr. Speaker, the problem is, the problem is that instead of saving lives and saving the economy, this government is more concerned about saving dollars from their own coffers. Mr. Speaker, at a time when Saskatchewan people are being asked to be so generous, why does this government insist on being so cheap?

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

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. And the premise of the member's question is utterly preposterous. This government has come forward with very real and significant resources in the hundreds of millions of dollars to support not just the health care system, of which we dealt with nearly \$200 million additionally just last night, Mr. Speaker. In addition hundreds of millions of dollars for supports in other parts of the economy and other parts of government, Mr. Speaker.

And let's be clear what the members opposite are advocating. Let's be clear. The Leader of the Opposition yesterday went out and spoke approvingly of the Victoria model in Australia. The Victoria model meant a four-month lockdown. It meant . . . From his seat right now, Mr. Speaker, he's lauding the Victoria model.

Mr. Speaker, citizens need to know what that is. That means you will be locked in your home for 23 of 24 hours per day under threat of arrest and fine if you leave your home, Mr. Speaker. If you are caught outside of your home more than 5 kilometres, unless you have papers from the government giving you permission, you will be arrested and fined. That's what he's advocating.

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

#### COVID-19 and Indigenous Communities

**Ms. Nippi-Albright:** — COVID-19 is out of control in Saskatchewan, and First Nations are more vulnerable to the virus than most in our province. The federal government is keeping track of how many people on-reserve are getting sick, but the province hasn't released any information about First Nations living off-reserve and COVID-19. And a recent report in the *StarPhoenix* says:

No one is tracking cases among the tens of thousands of Saskatchewan First Nations people who live off reserve, nor the nearly 58,000 people who self-identified as Métis in the 2016 federal . . . [consensus].

Is this really the case? Is the provincial government not tracking how COVID is impacting First Nations living off-reserve? And if not, why not?

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member opposite for the question. We are working with our Indigenous leaders across Saskatchewan. I just had a call with them earlier this week, talking about what is happening with our vaccine rollout just to make sure that they were in the loop as to where we were putting our priorities. And, Mr. Speaker, we do have a priority on our vaccine rollout for the First Nations communities that are in the remote areas and certainly in the North.

Mr. Speaker, to say that we haven't consulted with the Indigenous people and to say that we're not working with them to be able to find a path through this, Mr. Speaker, is just wrong. We have been engaging, the Minister of Government Relations has been engaging with the Indigenous communities to make sure. And, Mr. Speaker, we're going to include them on our working groups to be able to make sure that they know what's happening when this vaccine arrives in Saskatchewan.

But the good news is, Mr. Speaker, that this vaccine is arriving. The four priorities that Dr. Shahab and his team of medical experts has laid out, Mr. Speaker, is what we're exactly going to follow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Nippi-Albright:** — Mr. Speaker, there is an R on my health card. It stands for registered Indian. The government doesn't have a problem counting all First Nations living in the province when it comes to applying for Canada Health Transfer, so surely



they can pull a report from their database of all the off-reserve positive cases.

So what are the numbers, Mr. Speaker? What percentage of those who tested positive are First Nations living off-reserve? What percentage of those First Nations are in hospital? And how many have died of COVID-19?

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, and again to answer the question, we have been consulting with our Indigenous partners and working with the federal government to see how the impact is happening for our First Nations on- and off-reserve, and certainly with our Métis organizations across the province. That's why we're engaging them, Mr. Speaker, about the vaccine distribution. And that's again, Mr. Speaker, why we are engaging them on our working groups to make sure that we are seeing things from the perspective of the SHA and the ministry to what's happening on the ground within the community either on- or off-reserve, Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'll continue to say that we are working with our Indigenous partners ongoing, Mr. Speaker, throughout this pandemic. But, Mr. Speaker, I'll also identify that this pandemic doesn't see race, gender, age. This pandemic affects everybody in Saskatchewan, and that's why we want to make sure that we get this vaccine to those priority groups as soon as the federal government delivers it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Nippi-Albright:** — Mr. Speaker, the minister is not answering my question. These numbers should be easy for the minister to provide, and the fact that he hasn't had them ready speaks volumes about this government's priorities. The provincial government is responsible for our health care system and for ensuring the health of all people in our province. This includes First Nations and Métis people living off-reserve. What does this say about the government's commitment to reconciliation when they aren't even keeping track of how many First Nations people living off-reserve are getting sick?

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, we are tracking as much as we possibly can. And I want to thank, at this point in time, all of the health care workers and the people that are backfilling the positions within health care to be able to do our contact tracing, Mr. Speaker. Again, we are working with our Indigenous partners to be able to make sure that they are receiving the vaccine in the priorities that we have laid out with Dr. Shahab, that dovetails exactly what the federal government is looking for across Canada, Mr. Speaker.

And I'll go through them, just to put them on the record. Mr. Speaker, we're talking about the elderly residents in the long-term care as well as the staff there; health care workers, Mr. Speaker, obviously because they're in direct contact with this deadly virus; seniors over 80 because that's where we've seen the highest mortality rate, Mr. Speaker; and also residents of

northern remote communities.

When I talked to the Indigenous leaders on Tuesday, Mr. Speaker, they were very happy with this. And I believe Chief Tammy Cook-Searson just came out with some positive responses to this, Mr. Speaker, in supporting the plan that this government has put forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Energy Efficiency in Saskatchewan

**Ms. Ritchie:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Energy efficiency is widely regarded and known to be one of the most effective forms of climate action. But this government isn't taking action; they're missing in action. Other provinces are making this a priority in creating good jobs in energy efficiency retrofits and renewable power.

Weeks ago the Sask Party government was ranked dead last out of all the provinces when it comes to energy efficiency. Why hasn't the Environment minister followed the lead of other jurisdictions and enacted policies that would support households and businesses achieve lasting and durable energy savings that would offer permanent savings on their power bills?

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

**Hon. Mr. Kaeding:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The scorecard referenced by the NDP [New Democratic Party] touches on less than a quarter of the great work of our stakeholders in reducing Saskatchewan's emissions, while unfortunately ignoring the tangible work that's being done by the province.

Let's look at what the scorecard did ignore. It ignored that SaskPower initiatives such as programs for customer self-generation greenhouse gases reduced targets. They weren't awarded any points in that scorecard, Mr. Speaker. There's \$97,000 to the Battleford Arena for energy efficient lighting — zero points, Mr. Speaker. Over \$700,000 to Regina for energy monitoring and optimization infrastructure, Mr. Speaker — zero points.

You know what it did provide points for, Mr. Speaker? Oh, provincial carbon tax, there was points for that, Mr. Speaker. How about giving folks that can afford a Tesla an \$8,000 credit, Mr. Speaker? How about if you require all the new parking spots to have electric vehicle chargers, Mr. Speaker, you get points?

Mr. Speaker, this province is doing great work towards energy efficiency in this province.

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

**Ms. Ritchie:** — Mr. Speaker, the numbers don't lie. And Saskatchewan people are resilient. They know how to use ingenuity and common sense to stretch a dollar and deal in difficult times. But they also need a government that can send smart policy signals that support people and help them move in the right direction to be more energy efficiency.

[10:30]

In the energy efficiency report, Saskatchewan received just two points out of a possible 40 for energy efficiency programs; zero points for program spending; and on buildings, Saskatchewan ranked second to last; and for enabling policies and transportation, Saskatchewan ranked dead last. What is the Environment minister's plans to improve these scores and help make Saskatchewan an energy efficiency leader?

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

**Hon. Mr. Kaeding:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What this government, what this province is not going to accept is a carbon tax, Mr. Speaker, because unfortunately that can cost us — well we've estimated — over \$4 billion in taxes over five years, Mr. Speaker. That's not what this economy can handle at this time, Mr. Speaker.

What we're looking at is trying to create and utilize innovation throughout the province, Mr. Speaker. A couple more examples where we were not given credit for was \$156,000 to . . . [inaudible] . . . solar panels at the Jubilee arenas in Biggar, Mr. Speaker — zero credit for that; \$880,000 of an investment made at the Moose Jaw wastewater treatment plant, Mr. Speaker — again zero points for that, Mr. Speaker.

So as much as we would like to recognize that the energy efficiency report is something that the NDP believes strongly in, Mr. Speaker, we believe strongly in the ingenuity and the innovation that our residents of this province are utilizing, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Ritchie:** — Mr. Speaker, the federal government would not have had to intrude on provincial jurisdiction if they had put forward a viable plan. And as with most things, this government is in deep denial. They're in denial when it comes to their worst-in-the-nation scores on energy efficiency, and they're in denial when it comes to the need for real action on climate change.

They point to Prairie Resilience, but it's nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to protect the status quo while ignoring those experiencing real harms due to a rapidly changing climate. And the Prairies are warming faster than nearly any other part of the country.

So instead of the denialism of inaction, when will the Environment minister finally take action and come up with a real efficiency plan to reduce our emissions and create good jobs?

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

**Hon. Mr. Kaeding:** — Mr. Speaker, I think we need to remind the opposition that right now 88 per cent of the people in Saskatchewan oppose a carbon tax, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely ineffective. What we do support, Mr. Speaker, what the people of this province do support is prairie resiliency, Mr. Speaker, because within that we have been able to significantly reduce emissions through our carbon capture plant at Estevan, Mr.

Speaker. It recognizes the efforts that our agriculture industry has done, Mr. Speaker: the zero-till ag utilization, the crops that we're producing in this province, providing incredible support when it results in carbon reduction, Mr. Speaker.

Our methane action plan in this province, Mr. Speaker, requires a lot of co-operation. It's a suite of newly funded programs, policies, Mr. Speaker, that are going to significantly reduce emissions in this province, Mr. Speaker. These are made-in-Saskatchewan programs. These are made-in-Saskatchewan policies. These are going to affect the people of the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

### Government Response to COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities

**Mr. Love:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to begin by again expressing my condolences to families who've lost loved ones and my utmost respect and gratitude to everyone working on the front lines to serve our seniors in long-term care. The courage of these workers is on full display at this time.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we learned in committee last night that on Friday it was the staff at Parkside who were forced, out of sheer desperation, to call in the Regina Fire Department. We know that the SHA has entered into co-management, and yesterday there was a desperate plea for emergency staffing.

The Minister for Seniors rightly pointed out that this is a situation that is changing by the minute and that all options are on the table. But despite these comments, in committee the Health minister unequivocally ruled out seeking military help. Mr. Speaker, the scale of this outbreak is unprecedented and there's nothing stopping this situation from unfolding in other care homes across the province. Will the minister reconsider, engage the federal minister on the issue of military aid so support is at least available when we need it?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hindley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate the member opposite's concern. We're all very concerned, of course, on what's happening at Parkside Extendicare in Regina. As the member opposite referenced, earlier this week it was announced that the SHA entered into a co-management agreement with Extendicare with respect to providing operational oversight throughout this situation, Mr. Speaker. They've engaged daily point-of-care testing right now. As we've heard, the Regina Fire Department has provided four paramedics to assist with primary care.

Mr. Speaker, we have confidence in those that are working in this facility. We have confidence in the health care professionals and in the SHA, and the guidance that they are providing to Extendicare with respect to what's going on there and to help manage the situation, Mr. Speaker, and we're confident that they will be able to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

**Mr. Love:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The numbers again: 149 residents, 57 staff have contracted the virus at Parkside Extencicare. Eleven residents have sadly died. At this point only 1 in 10 residents are testing negative, Mr. Speaker. Alarming.

Let's be honest. The lives of seniors in other facilities are hanging on the minister's ability to admit mistakes and to do better in the future. Does the minister regret failing to act on the mountain of evidence, including the CEO [chief executive officer] tour report that so clearly illustrated the risk that this home posed to seniors? And does he regret not listening to the medical health professionals who called for more stringent measures that could have kept these seniors safe?

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

**Hon. Mr. Hindley:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And as we've mentioned previously, we're very concerned about the situation at Parkside Extencicare in Regina. We have full confidence in the SHA with their co-management agreement with Extencicare, with the staff on the ground there, the paramedics, everybody that's providing assistance at the facility.

Mr. Speaker, that being said, we are also watching the situation very closely and will be providing and offering any other supports that may be required, Mr. Speaker. As we've heard, a number of residents have been transferred out. SHA are currently doing check-ins with other Extencicare facilities across the province, Mr. Speaker, and will be providing updates to us in short order. Mr. Speaker, we are in constant communication with Parkside Extencicare on this situation and with the number of . . . you know, any of the outbreaks, the 14 outbreaks in any of our long-term care facilities, Mr. Speaker.

We're grateful for the work done by the front-line health care workers, Mr. Speaker. We're grateful for the advice we get from Dr. Shahab and his team throughout this pandemic, Mr. Speaker. And we're confident that they will be able to continue to provide the best possible care for the residents in our long-term care homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### **Bill No. 20 — *The Publicly-funded Health Entity Public Interest Disclosure Act***

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

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 20, *The Publicly-funded Health Entity Public Interest Disclosure Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 20 be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

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

recognize the Minister of Health.

**Hon. Mr. Merriman:** — Next sitting of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

### **Bill No. 21 — *The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Amendment Act, 2020***

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

**Hon. Ms. Tell:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 21, *The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Amendment Act, 2020* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety that Bill No. 21 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.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the bill be read a second time. I recognize the Minister of Policing.

**Hon. Ms. Tell:** — Next sitting of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

### **Bill No. 22 — *The Credit Union Amendment Act, 2020***

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 22, *The Credit Union Amendment Act, 2020* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 22 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.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Justice.

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next sitting.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

### **Bill No. 23 — *The Emergency Planning Amendment Act, 2020***

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

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 23, *The Emergency Planning Amendment Act, 2020* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 23 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.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Justice.

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Mr. Speaker, at the next sitting.

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

#### **Bill No. 24 — *The Vehicles for Hire Amendment Act, 2020***

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 24, *The Vehicles for Hire Amendment Act, 2020* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Crown Investments that Bill No. 24 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.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Next sitting of the Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

#### **PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Cypress Hills.

##### **Standing Committee on Private Bills**

**Mr. Steele:** — Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Private Bills met earlier today and considered compliance of the rules for the petition for private Bill No. 901. Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Private Bills to present this first report. I move:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

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:** — The motion is carried and pursuant to rule 102, private Bill No. 901 is determined to be read the first time and is ordered for the second reading on the next private members' day.

**Clerk:** — Committee of Finance.

**The Speaker:** — I do now leave the Chair for Committee of Finance.

[10:45]

#### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

#### **GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

#### **COMMITTEE OF FINANCE**

##### **Motions for Supply**

**The Chair:** — Good morning. The business before the committee is an appropriation resolution. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — I move the following resolution:

Resolved that toward making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2021, the sum of \$482,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

**The Chair:** — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2021, the sum of \$482,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. I would invite the Minister of Finance to move that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to a resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Madam Chair, I move that the committee rise and that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to a resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

**The Chair:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to a resolution 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.

**Ms. Wilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Committee of Finance has agreed to a resolution and has instructed me to report the same and ask for leave to sit again.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the resolution be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

### FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — I move that the resolution be now read a first and second time.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — First and second reading of the resolution.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the committee sit again? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Pursuant to rule 32(1)(d), the Minister of Finance shall move first reading of the appropriation bill. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

### APPROPRIATION BILL

#### Bill No. 25 — The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — I move that Bill No. 25, *The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)* be now introduced and read the first time.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has moved that Bill No. 25, *The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)* be now introduced and read the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Under rule 32(1)(e), I move that Bill No. 25, *The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)* be now read a second and third time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 25, *The Appropriation Act 2020 (No. 2)* be now read a second and third time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — Second and third reading of this bill.

### SECOND READINGS

#### Bill No. 1 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to move second reading of Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*. This legislation amends *The Income Tax Act, 2000* and implements one of the income tax commitments announced during the fall 2020 election.

Mr. Speaker, this tax initiative is part of the government's commitment to invest in the priorities of Saskatchewan people. That includes making life more affordable for everyone by focusing on the recovery and growth of the province's economy. In support of that commitment, I am pleased to introduce a bill that will implement the home renovation tax credit. This initiative will allow Saskatchewan homeowners to claim a non-refundable 10.5 per cent provincial tax credit on eligible home renovation expenses undertaken on their primary residence between October 1st, 2020 and December 31st, 2022. This has the potential of reducing a homeowner's tax liability by up to \$2,100.

Between our government's provincial sales tax reduction on new home construction and this new home renovation tax credit, construction activities will increase in the province, and this will help drive Saskatchewan's economic recovery. In addition, the bill includes minor technical amendments requested by the Canada Revenue Agency to ensure the consistent and effective administration of taxes.

Mr. Speaker, I now move second reading of Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has moved second reading of Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*. Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to enter in, albeit briefly, with respect to the bill before us, the measure around the tax credit for home renovations, Mr. Speaker.

Certainly there's some merit to this program, but unfortunately it's a very small measure if you look at the economic challenges that we're facing, Mr. Speaker, and certainly not adequate in itself to stepping up to the challenge we face for getting this economy back on its feet and people back to work with the jobs that they deserve.

Certainly Saskatchewan people know that the imposition, for example, of the PST [provincial sales tax] onto construction labour devastated that industry and put thousands of hard-working tradespeople out of work, cranked up the cost of construction for people across Saskatchewan, homeowners through businesses, Mr. Speaker. And certainly we've been of the position that that massive tax increase is very much the epitome of a job-killing tax, Mr. Speaker.

What we see here today is a small program. There will be some uptake to it. It's a reasonable measure on some fronts, Mr. Speaker, but certainly inadequate to stepping up to the challenge that we face.

I should say as well that obviously key to our economy right now is containing the virus, Mr. Speaker, and saving lives and keeping people safe. And sadly at the current state we're in, the government is failing to contain the virus, and that has really catastrophic economic impacts for Saskatchewan people. It certainly does from the perspective of people's loved ones and neighbours and friends as well when we're looking at saving lives, Mr. Speaker. So we would push this government to do all that it can and to finally step up to contain the virus, Mr. Speaker. This is important to lives and to livelihoods. This is important to our friends and our neighbours and our loved ones. And it's important to the economy, Mr. Speaker.

And as we move forward, we need much bolder, more significant actions in this, Mr. Speaker, to secure an economic recovery that works for people. I point directly again to the imposition of that PST that, you know, was brought forward by this government onto things like construction labour. It was sort of like seeing a slowing economy and a government choosing to slam on the brakes and, sadly, stick us in recession, Mr. Speaker. We have thousands of hard-working people out of employment in Saskatchewan. We have good folks like those that have toiled so hard and so long out at Evraz steel, Mr. Speaker, who are now losing employment during this time. We need a government to be stepping up to support those workers and that industry, but also to be energizing our economy across Saskatchewan.

I point to as well that it's unfortunate that this government has really cut, you know, all the energy efficiency retrofit supports that were there, as well as gutted that rooftop solar industry, Mr. Speaker. Because those are certainly two types of construction activity that we really should be supporting right now in Saskatchewan and would be a good complement along with, you know, a program like this but broader measures as well around the PST. So at this point in time though, Mr. Speaker, I'll conclude my remarks with respect to this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*, be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — Second reading of this Bill.

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — I designate that Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*, be committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills.

[11:00]

**Bill No. 2 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020***

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to move the second reading of Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*. This legislation amends *The Income Tax Act, 2000*, and implements the small-business income tax commitment announced during the fall 2020 election. Mr. Speaker, this tax initiative is part of the government's commitment to invest in the priorities of Saskatchewan people. That includes focusing on the recovery and growth of the province's economy by promoting small-business activity.

In support of that goal, I am pleased to announce that this bill will reduce taxes on small businesses in Saskatchewan. The amendments will introduce a three-year tax reduction to the small-business tax rate which will help support Saskatchewan small businesses sustain operations, retain and hire new employees, and grow their businesses. The small-business tax reduction will benefit about 31,000 incorporated Saskatchewan small businesses, saving them over \$189 million in provincial taxes over the next three years.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, we will be making a corresponding change to the dividend tax credit rate in response to changes to the small-business rate. This change will maintain the integration between corporate and personal income tax systems. Mr. Speaker, this bill supports the government's plan for a strong Saskatchewan.

And I now move second reading of Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has moved second reading of Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*. Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member from Regina University.

**Ms. A. Young:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to enter my comments into the record here today.

This is certainly a step, Mr. Speaker, but at best this can be called a half measure. By the government's own language, around

30,000 businesses will be impacted by this. And as we all know here in this Assembly, 99 per cent of small businesses in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, are small, and there are over 150,000 small businesses here.

By the government's own language, this will impact only one in five of those businesses in the best-case scenario which is, of course, a worst-case scenario. Small businesses are key to the economy here in Saskatchewan and will be critical to any economic recovery that we have, making up over 23 per cent of our GDP [gross domestic product].

This has always been an entrepreneurial province, Mr. Speaker, but unfortunately this is a . . . While it's a start, it's a bit of a lazy piece of policy. It's a half measure, especially in light of the imposition of the PST in 2017. Many businesses, Mr. Speaker, their revenues are down so substantially that this bit of tax relief unfortunately may not help. If the goal is for dollars to be reinvested in businesses, Mr. Speaker, what businesses need is an influx of cash. I would hope that the government does consider this going forward.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would just reiterate how critical small businesses will be to the economic recovery of Saskatchewan and hope that future measures will be better directed to the over 150,000 businesses that we do have here in the province. And with that I'll conclude my remarks. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* be now read a second time.

Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — Second reading of this bill.

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — I designate that Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* be committed to the Committee of the Whole on Bills.

**Clerk:** — Committee of the Whole on Bills.

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

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BILLS

### Bill No. 1 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*

**The Chair:** — Good morning again. The first item of business before the committee is Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*.

[Clauses 1 to 9 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. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I move that the committee report the bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — It has been moved that the committee report Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020* without amendment. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

### Bill No. 2 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*

**The Chair:** — The next item of business before the committee is Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*. 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 No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that the committee report the bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — It has been moved that the committee report that Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Madam Chair. 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.

**Ms. Wilson:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020* without amendment.

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

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to move to third reading immediately.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has requested leave to move third reading immediately. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The House Leader may now proceed to move third reading.

### THIRD READINGS

#### **Bill No. 1 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020***

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020* be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that Bill No. 1, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020* 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 this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — Third reading of this bill.

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

**Ms. Wilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the committee to Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* without amendment.

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

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to move to third reading immediately.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has requested leave to move third reading immediately. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The Government House Leader may proceed to move third reading.

#### **Bill No. 2 — *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020***

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* be now read the third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved that Bill No. 2, *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020* 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.

**Clerk:** — Third reading of this bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the committee sit again? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Next sitting.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting. So, colleagues, we're just waiting for the Lieutenant Governor to arrive. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would request leave to make a statement regarding the conclusion of the sitting.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Government House Leader would like to make a statement. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed.

[11:15]

### STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

#### **Acknowledgements and Christmas Greetings**

**Hon. Mr. J. Harrison:** — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to colleagues on both sides of the Chamber for the granting of leave. It's of course tradition that at the conclusion of the fall sitting that House leaders and yourself, Mr. Speaker, have the opportunity to say some thank yous to the folks who make this possible, who aren't always in the limelight, but who do just incredible work, and particularly so given the unprecedented circumstances in which the House finds itself in



this particular sitting, as we did to a degree in the last sitting as well.

But there are a number of thank yous that need to be appropriately made, Mr. Speaker, first of which is to yourself as Chair and as the presiding officer of this institution. Thank you for your leadership through this period of time. We've had some challenges, both on the administrative side but also on the . . . some unexpected circumstances like power outages and those sort of things, where your leadership has been very important in making the Chamber work.

I want to thank the Clerks' Table very much, and the Clerk particularly, for the work, extremely professional work that they have done over the course of the last nine months. Not just in the lead-up to this session but in the lead-up to the summer sitting as well, in which we really did have to rewrite a lot of the standing orders under which the institution has operated for many decades, nearly a century, Mr. Speaker. And I want to thank the Clerk and his team for the work that they have done, which has been incredible in making this institution function and work through this challenging COVID period of time.

I thank the committee Clerks as well for the work that they do every day in making sure the committees are functional and doing the work that they need to be doing, which is where a lot of the heavy lifting gets done in this Chamber. I want to thank the Sergeant-at-Arms, Terry, thank you very much, you and your team, for making sure that this building is secure, and making sure that everyone is staying safe in all manner of ways in the building.

Thank the staff of LAS as well, Legislative Assembly Service, for the work they do every day in making sure that things function smoothly; Hansard, who have had a challenging circumstance with desks being at distances they are. There's been a lot of rewiring that's gone on, and it's actually caused some real technical challenges. And Hansard have really risen to the occasion in making sure that the lights come on when they need to come on. And we want to thank them not just for that but also for all of the work that you do every day.

Broadcast services, thanks for again just very, very professional work, and a lot of changes in the Chamber that have impacted on the day-to-day work of broadcast services that we very much appreciate. Thank the commissioners and the security staff who work to keep the building secure and members secure, staff secure. And we really do appreciate their service in doing so. Cafeteria staff, who have maintained operation of the cafeteria downstairs under, of course, different circumstances than normal but have operated in a very professional, responsible, and safe way as well.

I want to thank my colleague, the Opposition House Leader opposite. I think we've developed a very good working relationship and I think that is a very positive thing. And I want to thank her for her very real professionalism in making this session work while and in the lead-up to the session which is where a lot of work actually goes on between House leaders to make it look relatively smooth at least when we're in the Chamber. And I want to acknowledge as well her predecessors, my dear friends, Cathy Sproule and Warren McCall. They've done the job of Opposition House Leader for a long time and are

just great folks.

I want to thank our staff in House business, Michelle Lang, who is our executive director and just does a great job, and Kali Olynyk who has been working down in the office for over a year. I want to thank her as well.

And of course I want to thank the Premier for his tremendous leadership. We are very fortunate in this province to have such a strong, just extraordinarily good judgment in our Premier, and we appreciate that.

Colleagues in cabinet and caucus who have operated and done a great job through a very difficult time period, I want to thank them for their leadership as well.

And primarily I want to thank the people of Saskatchewan who have gone through what is an unprecedentedly difficult nine-month period of time with diligence, with determination, who are going to be going through another number of months of challenges as well, but we know, we know that they are up to the task and have been up to the task for the past nine months.

So I want to thank again everybody for this opportunity and encourage Saskatchewan citizens to stay safe, have a quiet Christmas, but do enjoy and appreciate what we do have, as the Minister of Finance so eloquently put earlier in her member statement. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Ask for leave, please.

**Ms. Mowat:** — I ask for leave to make a statement.

**The Speaker:** — The member has asked leave to make a statement. Agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed.

**Ms. Mowat:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the end of a short session I will also take the opportunity to join with the Government House Leader in acknowledging all of the people that go into putting on this grand production that happens every time we go into the Assembly or into any of our committees, all of the work that we do here. It's not always so obvious to folks who are viewing from home, but we don't get here alone. And even though we're the faces that are on the camera the most, there is so much work that goes into making this happen, even when we're only here for two weeks.

So we know that this year has been a particular challenge as, you know, every working environment has had to adapt to COVID. And there have been so many additional considerations about how we do our work here and how we keep ourselves safe and all the staff safe who are also in this space with us. So I want to thank the Clerk and the Table Officers for their thoughtful entry into how we go about our business safely, how we vote safely, how we do the work in this Assembly, how we do all of these

pieces safely, and for making this place function like a well-oiled machine.

This work is particularly appreciated considering I'm new in this role as House Leader and I've relied on their guidance tremendously, and I assume I will continue to do so. So thank you for continuing to pick up the phone when I call and answering and providing some context into the dealings of the day.

And I want to thank the LAS staff who work tirelessly to keep this place functioning as efficiently as possible. And thank you, Mr. Speaker, as well. You're new to your role but we have already started to work to develop a good working relationship. And you know, I want to thank your staff for the work that they put in as well and the support that they provide to also help things run smoothly.

I want to thank the media who are always a consistent presence in this Assembly in reporting out the work and the goings on of this space. I think it's taken on a heightened role of significance in the age of COVID, where we don't have guests in the Assembly, so the public isn't here to witness the proceedings. Of course they can always view them online, but I think the role of the media has been heightened here. So thank you for the work that they put in.

And thank you to the Sergeant-at-Arms and the commissionaires and security personnel, you know, everyone who's working to keep us safe both from tangible and from paranormal threats, Mr. Speaker. There's rumour of a video tape of a ghost going around here. I haven't yet looked at it, but I've heard that it's . . . There's speculation that it's a water droplet. But I do want to thank these folks for making sure that they are keeping us safe, that they are monitoring that footage. We know in this day that, you know, anyone can be the target of attacks and, you know, in knowing that their presence is here I think provides some peace of mind to members.

I want to thank the Hansard staff. They have to listen to us all day and try to make sense of our words. I don't envy you, and I commend your patience and really applaud your ability to spell names. It's like you can read my mind when I'm giving a speech, and you're name checking and I, you know, all the work that goes into that and all the transcribing. We were told that there might be a delay in some of the production of *Hansard*, but I was so impressed to see that even yesterday's committees were already up first thing this morning when I was calling stakeholders. So I, you know, thank you for all of the work that you do to make sure that the record of what happens in this House carries forward.

And I want to thank the broadcast services, bringing high-definition television and internet streams of all our goings-on here. I know people rely so much on this link. And you know, being a member from Saskatoon, before COVID when people could visit, it was so infrequent that family and friends and stakeholders from my city were able to make it down to Regina. They have so heavily relied on the broadcast services here to be able to make that linkage to our communities back home. So thank you for being able to provide that service.

And for committees, the committee clerks for making sure that our committees run smoothly. Even this morning, we were in

committee, and without the clerks I don't know how we would get through those. They are always ready to go. They've got all the motions ready to go. And they make us look good.

I also want to thank the building staff, custodial staff, maintenance staff, everyone who goes into making sure that this place is so beautiful, and you know, I know it takes a lot of upkeep. So thank you.

I also want to thank the Government House Leader. He has a lot of bite when you're watching him respond to questions in question period, but we have developed a good working relationship. And I want to thank him for that relationship that we have been able to develop. I feel like at times in the lead-up to session and during this session, that I've talked to him more than I've talked to my own family. So thank you for that sort of steady correspondence, and you know, it takes a lot of work behind the scenes to make things look seamless in here so appreciate, appreciate all of that. I know he's a busy individual as well.

And to the Deputy Government House Leader, who is also known to give some pretty impassioned political speeches in this space, he has genuinely made me laugh a few times throughout this session, so I want to thank him, as well as all their staff that are working behind the scenes, for working with our side as well.

There is a lot that goes into everything that happens in this space, and I know that our caucus staff, a small but fierce team, work so hard to make us look good in here. And some days it is more challenging than others. Thanks to them. They're probably so happy that this is our final day here. And in particular I want to thank Mitch Bonokoski. He is our issues management and legislative affairs director. I've relied on him so much in my new role. He is doing several jobs at once and doing them quite well. And he's been so patient and supportive throughout this whole process with me and with other members, so thank you, Mitch.

And I want to thank all members of this Assembly. You know, we make so many sacrifices to come here. We make sacrifices with our family. Our caucus, I want to thank them for being a large group of new members who've quickly found their feet and are now no strangers to this place. And in particular I want to thank our leader, you know, for just givin' 'er every day. And you know, I think he is strong-willed but also just so spirited and keeps everyone moving. He is like an Energizer Bunny. I haven't really seen him take a day to slow down. So I want to thank him for his enthusiasm. I think it sort of rubs off on the rest of us and keeps us going.

And I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a wonderful holiday season, and you know, encourage members to take some time with their families. It's going to be a quiet holiday season. Gatherings are going to look quite a bit different without those large, extended family gatherings, but I hope that it's restorative and that everyone stays safe and healthy. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** — I ask leave to make a statement as well please.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Thank you. As we returned to the legislature on November 30th for the first sitting of the twenty-ninth

legislature, we as MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] entered the Chamber for the second time in the midst of a global pandemic.

[11:30]

We've heard many times during this unprecedented time that we are in this together. We owe our extreme gratitude to many who have gone above and beyond, putting in many extra hours to accommodate the provincial health regulations in the Legislative Assembly so that we may serve the citizens of Saskatchewan in our roles as legislators.

I would like to acknowledge these people at this time: Steve Bata and his team for keeping our building running smoothly, all the extra cleaning measures, and the restructuring of the seating and installation of Plexiglas in the Chamber so that all are safe. Thank you very much.

To the Clerk's office: Greg Putz, Iris Lang, Ken Ring, Kathy Burianyk, Rob Park, Stacey Ursulescu, and Anne Drake, and the staff of the Legislative Assembly. Thanks to you all and your teams for your extraordinary efforts not only to keep us all on task but also enable the legislative process to run smoothly in the midst of a pandemic.

Thanks to Monique Lovatt for her dedication and hard work supporting the members' participation in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. To the Hansard team, as if the job is not difficult enough transcribing our debates, but add facial masks to the equation. We really appreciate the work that you do.

To procedural services and all of the hours spent rewiring and preparing the members' desks to allow for physical distancing and the installation of Plexiglas. Thank you to the Sergeant-at-Arms, Terry Quinn, and his team. Thank you for your diligence in maintaining the security of the Legislative Building and precincts.

We are very fortunate in Saskatchewan to have one of the finest Clerk's office and Legislative Assembly staff of any jurisdiction in the country. Thank you for all that you do for the members.

I also want to acknowledge a member of the Legislative Assembly staff, Kerry Bond, who will be retiring after 38 years working for broadcast services. Kerry has been instrumental in ensuring that the high service standards he has emboldened through his career will continue after his departure. Kerry can tell you how many hours of debate he has broadcast and recorded over the last nine years. Thank you, Kerry, for your leadership and commitment to the Legislative Assembly. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

Thanks to Sheila and Hayley in my office, the Speaker's office. I appreciate the good work that they have done in the past and I am very glad to announce that I have offered them a new contract and they have accepted it, so I look forward to their ongoing service to the Speaker's office.

Thank you to Janet, my campaign manager and constituency assistant, who has been with me for eight years.

I need to thank my spouse, Cindy, who recently retired as an

educational assistant, who is also my business manager. So we've got some bookkeeping to do when I get home.

Our daughter Lacey and spouse Nick, who have three girls, Surayya, Amara, and Leonora. Lacey was recently elected to the Regina Public School Board.

Our son, Marshall, who has completed the corrections study program at the polytechnic in Prince Albert last spring, he has been accepted to work for Corrections Canada and will be leaving December 29th for PEI [Prince Edward Island] for four months of training.

Our daughter Alex, who works with Social Services in North Battleford, and her partner Andrew make home in North Battleford. They postponed their wedding last summer due to COVID and they hope to get married this summer. I'm very proud of my family.

Thank you to the members for many hours of service and a strong commitment to your positions as elected officials of the province of Saskatchewan. Thank you to my colleagues for your patience while I learn my role as your Speaker. We not only have had to deal with the pandemic and a power outage, but also a sighting of a ghost. Members, please travel safe. May you and your families stay safe as we adjourn today. We are doing so under the most uncertain of times. Merry Christmas, everyone, and all the best in the new year.

I'm advised that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor is here for Royal Assent. All please rise.

[At 11:35 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Honour then gave Royal Assent to the following bills.]

## ROYAL ASSENT

**His Honour:** — Pray be seated.

**The Speaker:** — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly at its present session has passed several bills which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour and to which bills I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**Clerk:** — Your Honour, the bills are as follows:

- Bill No. 1 - *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Home Renovation Tax Credit) Amendment Act, 2020*
- Bill No. 2 - *The Income Tax (Strong Recovery Small Business Tax Reduction) Amendment Act, 2020*

**His Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I assent to these bills.

**The Speaker:** — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly has voted the supplies required to enable the government to defray the expenses of the public service.

In the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour:

- Bill No. 25 - *The Appropriation Act, 2020 (No. 2)*

to which bill I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**His Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I thank the Legislative Assembly, accept its benevolence, and assent to this bill.

[At 11:38 His Honour retired from the Chamber.]

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

**Hon. Mr. J. 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 to the call of the Chair.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:39.]



# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

## CABINET MINISTERS

---

**Hon. Scott Moe**  
**Premier**  
**President of the Executive Council**  
**Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs**

**Hon. Lori Carr**  
Minister of Social Services

**Hon. Dustin Duncan**  
Minister of Education

**Hon. Bronwyn Eyre**  
Minister of Energy and Resources

**Hon. Joe Hargrave**  
Minister of Highways  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Water Security Agency

**Hon. Donna Harpauer**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister of Finance

**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
Minister of Trade and Export Development  
Minister of Immigration and Career Training  
Minister Responsible for Innovation  
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan

**Hon. Everett Hindley**  
Minister of Mental Health and Addictions,  
Seniors and Rural and Remote Health

**Hon. Warren Kaeding**  
Minister of Environment

**Hon. Gene Makowsky**  
Minister of Advanced Education

**Hon. David Marit**  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

**Hon. Don McMorris**  
Minister of Government Relations  
Minister Responsible for First Nations,  
Métis and Northern Affairs  
Minister Responsible for the  
Provincial Capital Commission

**Hon. Paul Merriman**  
Minister of Health

**Hon. Don Morgan**  
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety  
Minister of Crown Investments Corporation  
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Government Insurance  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Power Corporation  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Telecommunications  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Water Corporation  
Minister Responsible for the  
Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board

**Hon. Jim Reiter**  
Minister of SaskBuilds and Procurement  
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission  
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor  
and Gaming Authority  
Minister Responsible for The Global  
Transportation Hub Authority

**Hon. Laura Ross**  
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport  
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

**Hon. Christine Tell**  
Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

**Hon. Gordon Wyant**  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General