



No. 88

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Monday, May 15, 2017

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following members: Carr, Vermette, Chartier, Belanger, Forbes, Rancourt, Beck, Sarauer, and Meili.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to order and pursuant to rule 16(7), petitions from residents of the province of Saskatchewan, requesting the following action, were read and received:

To stop the federal government from imposing a carbon tax on the province.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 225)

To eliminate the wage gap between women and men.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 315)

To ensure job security for victims of domestic violence.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 320)

To stop the plan to sell off the Saskatchewan Transportation Company.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 329)

To restore funding to post-secondary institutions.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 335)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

The following bill was reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Doherty:

Bill No. 70 – The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2017 be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

YEAS – 48

Wall	Moe	Stewart	Wyant	Reiter
Morgan	Harpauer	Doherty	Duncan	Beaudry-Mellor
Hargrave	D'Autremont	Heppner	Boyd	Cheveldayoff
Marit	Tell	Eyre	Merriman	Harrison
Ottenbreit	Ross	Weekes	Brkich	Hart
Kirsch	Steinley	Makowsky	Phillips	Lawrence
Wilson	Campeau	Docherty	Michelson	Doke
Cox	Olauson	Steele	Young	Fiaz
Dennis	McMorris	Bonk	Carr	Nerlien
Lambert	Buckingham	Kaeding		

NAYS – 11

Wotherspoon	Vermette	Chartier	Belanger	Sroule
Forbes	Rancourt	Beck	McCall	Sarauer
Meili				

The said bill was, accordingly, read the third time and passed.

The following bill was reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was read the third time and passed, on division:

Bill No. 68 – The Fuel Tax Amendment Act, 2017

The following bill was reported with amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Doherty:

That Bill No. 69 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2017 be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

YEAS – 48

Wall	Moe	Stewart	Wyant	Reiter
Morgan	Harpauer	Doherty	Duncan	Beaudry-Mellor
Hargrave	D'Autremont	Heppner	Boyd	Cheveldayoff

Marit	Tell	Eyre	Merriman	Harrison
Ottenbreit	Ross	Weekes	Brkich	Hart
Kirsch	Steinley	Makowsky	Phillips	Lawrence
Wilson	Campeau	Docherty	Michelson	Doke
Cox	Olauson	Steele	Young	Fiaz
Dennis	McMorris	Bonk	Carr	Nerlien
Lambert	Buckingham	Kaeding		

NAYS – 11

Wotherspoon	Vermette	Chartier	Belanger	Sproule
Forbes	Rancourt	Beck	McCall	Sarauer
Meili				

The said bill was, accordingly, read the third time and passed.

MOTIONS FOR RETURNS

The order of the day being called for motion for return no. 96, pursuant to rule 22(3)(b), it was converted to a motion for return (debatable).

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The order of the day being called for question nos. 371 to 381, they were answered. (see appendix)

The order of the day being called for question nos. 382 to 384, pursuant to rule 21(6), the questions were converted and orders for returns were issued. (see appendix)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Merriman:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:52 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Corey Tochor
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS, AND PAPERS TABLED

The following returns which were ordered by the Assembly on November 16, 2016, were laid upon the Table:

Return nos. 56 and 57 asked by Ms. Sproule:

(Sessional paper no. 419-420)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following responses to written questions were tabled by the government:

Question no. 371 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: What is the number of suicides per year in Saskatchewan from 2005 to 2015?

Answer:

Year	Number of suicides
2005	119
2006	106
2007	135
2008	129
2009	152
2010	127
2011	135
2012	122
2013	126
2014	131
2015	150

Question no. 372 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) What percentage of suicides in each year from 2005 to 2015 were First Nations individuals? (2) Non-First Nations individuals?

Answer:

Data pertaining to First Nations is based on individual's self-declaration as Registered Indian and the provision of their treaty number. First Nations status does not take into account those who may identify as First Nations.

- (1) Percentage of suicides from 2005 to 2015 that were committed by individuals who have self-declared as having registered Indian status.

Year	Percentage
2005	15.126%
2006	25.472%
2007	21.481%
2008	18.605%
2009	19.079%
2010	18.898%
2011	15.556%
2012	18.852%
2013	12.698%
2014	22.901%
2015	16.000%

- (2) Percentage of suicides from 2005 to 2015 that were committed by individuals who do not self-declare as having registered Indian status.

Year	Percentage
2005	84.874%
2006	74.528%
2007	78.519%
2008	81.395%

2009	80.921%
2010	81.102%
2011	84.444%
2012	81.148%
2013	87.302%
2014	77.099%
2015	84.000%

Question no. 373 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) What percentage of suicides in each year from 2005 to 2015 were women? (2) Men?

Answer:

(1) Percentage of suicides committed by women.

Year	Percentage
2005	24.370%
2006	21.698%
2007	26.667%
2008	32.558%
2009	22.368%
2010	23.622%
2011	24.444%
2012	20.492%
2013	26.190%
2014	26.718%
2015	19.333%

(2) Percentage of suicides committed by men.

Year	Percentage
2005	75.630%
2006	78.302%
2007	73.333%
2008	67.442%
2009	77.632%
2010	76.378%
2011	75.556%
2012	79.508%
2013	73.810%
2014	73.282%
2015	80.667%

Question no. 374 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: What percentage of suicides in each year were individuals in the following categories: (1) Under 10 years old? (2) 10-15 years old? (3) 15-20 years old? (4) 20-25 years old? (5) 25-30 years old? (6) 30-35 years old? (7) 35-40 years old? (8) 40-45 years old? (9) 45-50 years old? (10) 50-55 years old? (11) 55-60 years old? (12) 60-65 years old? (13) 65-70 years old? (14) 70-75 years old? (15) 75-80 years old? (16) 80-85 years old? (17) 85-90 years old? (18) 90-95 years old? (19) 95-100 years old?

Answer:

Due to small cell size age ranges need to be collapsed to protect privacy. Percentage of suicides committed by age groups.

Year	0-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+
2005	15.126	15.126	5.882	8.403	5.042	5.882	10.924	9.244	9.244	15.126
2006	7.547	16.981	11.321	11.321	9.434	5.660	11.321	10.377	6.604	9.434
2007	22.963	11.852	5.926	6.667	5.926	5.926	9.630	10.370	5.926	14.815
2007	16.279	10.853	6.977	5.426	7.752	12.403	7.752	7.752	3.876	20.930
2008	9.868	11.184	11.842	7.237	9.868	8.553	7.237	10.526	5.263	18.421
2009	7.874	12.598	7.874	5.512	10.236	9.449	11.024	10.236	7.874	17.323
2010	11.111	17.037	9.630	6.667	9.630	8.148	4.444	10.370	6.667	16.296
2011	11.475	4.918	10.656	13.115	7.377	9.016	10.656	7.377	11.475	13.934
2012	11.905	12.698	5.556	10.317	5.556	11.905	8.730	7.143	8.730	17.460
2013	12.977	9.160	12.214	9.160	5.344	9.160	7.634	6.870	10.687	16.794
2014	8.667	12.667	10.667	4.667	8.000	6.667	11.333	8.000	8.000	21.333
2015	7.547	16.981	11.321	11.321	9.434	5.660	11.321	10.377	6.604	9.434

Question no. 375 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: For the years 2005 to 2015, how many suicides were in each health region?

Answer:

Allocation to a region is based on where the death occurred not necessarily the region the individual may have resided. Number of suicides in each health region.

Health Region	2005-2015
Athabasca Health Authority	17
Cypress Health Region	37
Five Hills Health Region	74
Heartland Health Region	53
Keewatin Yatthé Health Region	60
Kelsey Trail Health Region	62
Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region	65
Prairie North Health Region	118
Prince Albert Parkland Health Region	132
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region	313
Saskatoon Health Region	359
Sun Country Health Region	72
Sunrise Health Region	70

Question no. 376 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Finance: (1) How many students claimed the provincial tuition tax credit in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) 2009? (4) 2010? (5) 2011? (6) 2012? (7) 2013? (8) 2014? (9) 2015?

Answer:

Income tax forms require individuals to compute the tuition tax credit and education tax credit together and a single combined amount is claimed. The data relates to the combined claim. The number of claimants provided includes the combined claims for both tax credits claimed by a student and their spouses where applicable. (Information related to 2015 is not yet available)

Year	Number of taxpayers
2007	54,169
2008	45,908
2009	46,914

2010	46,245
2011	47,157
2012	51,528
2013	52,190
2014	52,104
2015	Unknown

Question no. 377 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Finance: (1) How many parents of students claimed the provincial tuition tax credit through transfer in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) 2009? (4) 2010? (5) 2011? (6) 2012? (7) 2013? (8) 2014? (9) 2015?

Answer:

Income tax forms require individuals to compute the tuition tax credit and education tax credit together and a single combined amount is claimed. The data relates to the combined claim. The number of claimants provided includes the combined claims for both tax credits claimed by a parent. (Information related to 2015 is not yet available)

Year	Number of taxpayers
2007	15,011
2008	15,021
2009	15,282
2010	15,027
2011	14,808
2012	14,610
2013	14,289
2014	13,762
2015	Unknown

Question no. 378 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Finance: How many individuals who claimed the provincial tuition tax credit are expected to now apply for student loans to offset the loss of tax credit support?

Answer:

The student loan program is a needs-based and income-tested program that targets funding primarily to students from low-income families. The program does not require or collect tax credit data for the purpose of determining eligibility for student loans so no correlation can be made between receipt of tax credits and applications for student loan assistance.

Question no. 379 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Advanced Education: How many individuals received the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings (SAGES) benefit in each year from 2007 to 2016?

Answer:

The program tracks the cumulative number of beneficiaries and not unique recipients in each fiscal year. The following is an annual fiscal year breakdown of the cumulative number of beneficiaries that have received the SAGES benefit:

Fiscal year	Total SAGES recipients as the end of each year
2013-14	35,937
2014-15	42,128
2015-16	50,054
2016-17*	57,974

*as at December 31, 2016

Question no. 380 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Advanced Education: How many Saskatchewan residents received a student loan in each year from 2007 to 2016?

Answer:

Loan year (Aug 1 to July 31)	Student loan recipients
2006-07	13,658
2007-08	12,050
2008-09	10,641
2009-10	10,972
2010-11	12,483
2011-12	13,044
2012-13	13,299
2013-14	12,784
2014-15	12,870
2015-16	13,500

Question no. 381 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Advanced Education: (1) How many Saskatchewan residents are anticipated to apply for a student loan in 2017? (2) 2018?

Answer:

As of April 30, 2017, 17,804 student loan applications had been received for the 2016-17 loan year. The loan year is from August 1 through to July 31. The ministry anticipates receiving a similar amount of applications in 2017-18.

QUESTIONS ORDERED FOR RETURN

The following written questions were converted and order for returns were issued:

Return no. 97 (Ms. Sproule):

To the Government: The exact date the Global Transportation Hub (GTH) acquired the following land from the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) NW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #202800631. (2) NE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (3) SE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (4) SW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #110621067.

Return no. 98 (Ms. Sproule):

To the Government: The date the payment was made for the GTH acquisition of the following land from the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) NW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #202800631. (2) NE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (3) SE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (4) SW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #110621067.

Return no. 99 (Ms. Sproule):

To the Government: For the following land the GTH acquired from the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, where the payment is reflected in *Public Accounts*: (1) NW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #202800631. (2) NE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (3) SE 24-17-21-W2, parcel #166081383. (4) SW 24-17-21-W2, parcel #110621067.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 85 and are to be answered by day no. 90:

Question no. 412 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: (1) What date/information was collected from centres who were receiving centre inclusion block funding before the decision to eliminate it? (2) If data/information was collected, how current was it?

Question no. 413 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: Were any of the executive directors from childcare centres who were receiving the centre inclusion block funding consulted in the process that resulted in the cancellation of the centre inclusion block funding?

Question no. 414 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: Which individuals, groups, or organizations were consulted in the process that resulted in the elimination of centre inclusion block funding?

Question no. 415 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: Were any boards of directors from childcare centres who were receiving the centre inclusion block funding consulted in the process that resulted in the cancellation of the centre inclusion block funding?

Question no. 416 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: Who or what government organization or what level of government was responsible for the final decision to eliminate centre inclusion block funding?

Question no. 417 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: Were any parents of children from childcare centres who were receiving the centre inclusion block funding consulted in the process that resulted in the cancellation of the centre inclusion block funding?

Question no. 418 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: (1) What evidence supported the decision to transition to enhanced accessibility grants and inclusion grants? (2) What evidence demonstrates this approach to be more beneficial for children than the centre inclusion block funding? (3) Can this information be provided?

Question no. 419 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education: (1) If data was not collected from centres who were receiving centre inclusion block funding what criteria was used to make the decision? (2) Why was input from centres not considered?

Question no. 420 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds: For the Regina bypass project, what is the total value of contract(s) with Associated Engineering Group Limited?

Question no. 421 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds: What roles and responsibilities does the Regina bypass group have in the remediation of the east borrow pit?

Question no. 422 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Advanced Education: (1) What are the estimated savings to Saskatchewan students from the open textbook and open educational resource program? (2) Since its inception, what has been the annual cost of the open textbook and open educational resource program? (3) What is the current status of the open textbook and open educational resource program (projected renewal, wind-down, etc.)?

Question no. 423 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) positive patients were hospitalized in each health region each year from 2007-2016? (2) For each patient hospitalized, what were the admitting diagnoses?

Question no. 424 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many HIV positive patients died in each health region for each year from 2007-2016? (2) For each patient death, what causes?

Question no. 425 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: What is the HIV incidence for each health region for each year between 2007-2016?

Question no. 426 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) What is the current total number of cases of diagnosed HIV in Saskatchewan? (2) Hepatitis C in Saskatchewan?

Question no. 427 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) Has there been any analysis of the economic cost of HIV in Saskatchewan? (2) If so, what are the estimated yearly costs since 2007? (3) What is the estimated cost per case of HIV in Saskatchewan?

Question no. 428 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) For each year from 2007-2016, what is the value of the direct investment made in HIV testing? (2) Prevention measures? (3) Treatment?

Question no. 429 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: What is the total value of direct HIV spending per year from 2007-2016?

Question no. 430 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: Has the government committed to reaching the UNAIDS 90-90-90 goal by 2020?

Question no. 431 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: How many current HIV positive patients in Saskatchewan do not qualify for coverage of antiretroviral therapy?

Question no. 432 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Health: (1) What is the estimated cost-to-cover antiretroviral coverage for HIV positive patients currently not covered? (2) How does this compare to the cost of not providing treatment to HIV positive patients?

Question no. 433 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) What are the traffic projections for the east bypass? (2) South bypass? (3) West bypass?

Question no. 434 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) What is the name of the study or report that informed the decision to move the route of the south bypass further south? (2) What were the indicated benefits of moving the south bypass route further south?

Question no. 435 (Mr. Meili):

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) On what day was the decision to build the Regina bypass project announced? (2) On what day did construction begin on the Regina bypass project? (3) On what day was the business case released? (4) On what day was the business case finalized and provided to officials? (5) On what day was the business case provided to Cabinet?

The following questions were given notice on day no. 86 and are to be answered by day no. 91:

Question no. 436 (Ms. Sproule):

To the Government: How much did Loblaws Company Ltd. pay for their land purchased at the Global Transportation Hub?

Question no. 437 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Justice: (1) Did the government engage in an open tendering process before negotiating a new contract for the provision of inmate telephone service with Telmate? (2) If so, how many companies presented a proposal or bid? (3) What analysis was done to determine that negotiating a new contract with Telmate would provide the best value?

Question no. 438 (Mr. McCall):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport: (1) Was there a production or productions from Minds Eye Entertainment filmed entirely in British Columbia that received Creative Saskatchewan funding in 2016? (2) If so, what were the amounts provided? (3) If so, what were the sources of the funding provided? (4) Was there an eligible production or productions to be filmed in Saskatchewan that was subsequently denied Creative Saskatchewan support because the available fund was depleted after Creative Saskatchewan provided support to the productions involved in the first question? (5) Will the provincial government and Creative Saskatchewan change the funding guidelines to ensure that films which are to be made in Saskatchewan receive priority over co-productions with other jurisdictions?

Question no. 439 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister of Health: What is the total number of full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) lost as a result of the elimination of the hearing aid plan including audiology positions and support staff?

Question no. 440 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister of Health: What are the values of the individual categories (salaries, pensions, and benefits, etc.) making up the estimated annualized savings of \$2,950,000 from the elimination of the hearing aid plan as cited in Human Services committee on May 1, 2017?

Question no. 441 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister of Health: What was the value of client payments to the hearing aid plan for each year between 2011-2017?