



No. 24

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION—TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, December 6, 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: Dennis, Chartier, Belanger, Sarauer, Sproule, Rancourt, Meili, and Wotherspoon.

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 provide main street access to Highway 1 in Balgonie.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 16)
- To stop the federal government from imposing a carbon tax on the province.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 17)
- To reopen the Buffalo Narrows correctional center.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 19)
- To construct a second bridge in Prince Albert.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 27)
- To pass legislation for critical supports for victims of domestic violence.
(Addendum to sessional paper no. 50)

To support mental health emergency units across Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 52)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Leave of the Assembly having been granted, the following bill was introduced, read the first time, and by leave of the Assembly and pursuant to rule 75(1), ordered to be read a second time immediately:

Bill No. 116—The Saskatchewan Employment (Interpersonal Violence Leave) Amendment Act, 2017

(Hon. Mr. Morgan)

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: Bill No. 116—The Saskatchewan Employment (Interpersonal Violence Leave) Amendment Act, 2017 be now read a second time.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said bill was accordingly, read a second time and by leave of the Assembly, referred to a Committee of the Whole on Bills immediately.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BILLS

The Assembly, according to order, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bills.

The following bill was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 116—The Saskatchewan Employment (Interpersonal Violence Leave) Amendment Act, 2017

The committee was given leave to sit again.

WITHDRAWAL OF ITEM OF BUSINESS

By leave of the Assembly and pursuant to rule 15(3), Bill No. 605—The Saskatchewan Employment (Support for Survivors of Domestic Violence) Amendment Act, 2017 was withdrawn.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following bill was introduced, read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time at the next sitting:

Bill No. 608—The Residential Schools and Sixties Scoop Survivors Memorial Day Act

(Mr. Belanger)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

Ms. Young, Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies, presented the committee's fourth report, which is as follows:

The committee considered the following supplementary estimates for which no funds were requested or required to be voted:

2017–2018 November Supplementary Estimates

Debt Redemption, Sinking Fund and Interest Payments

For Sinking Fund Payments—Government Share (Statutory)

Lending and Investing Activities

For Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation (Statutory)

(Sessional paper no. 69)

On motion of Ms. Young:

Ordered, That the Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies be now concurred in.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSE SERVICES

Mr. McCall, Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on House Services, presented the committee's eighth report, which is as follows:

The committee considered the following supplementary estimates for which no funds were requested or required to be voted:

2017–2018 November Supplementary Estimates

For Chief Electoral Officer (Statutory)

(Sessional paper no. 70)

On motion of Mr. McCall:

Ordered, That the Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Mr. D'Autremont, Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services, presented the committee's fifth report, which is as follows:

The committee considered the November supplementary estimates for the following ministries and agencies and adopted the following resolutions:

2017–2018 Supplementary Estimates—November

Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2018, the following sums:

Ministries and Agencies

For Advanced Education	\$20,000,000
For Health.....	\$36,500,000
For Social Services	\$29,000,000

The committee recommends that upon concurrence of its report by the Assembly, the sums as reported and approved shall be included in the appropriation bill for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.
(Sessional paper no. 71)

On motion of Mr. D'Autremont:

Ordered, That the Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The order of the day being called for question nos. 83 to 94, and 96 to 97, they were answered. (see appendix)

The order of the day being called for question no. 95, it was answered and pursuant to rule 21(7), converted to return no. 45.
(Sessional paper no. 72)

The order of the day being called for question nos. 98 to 105, pursuant to rule 21(6), the questions were converted and orders for return were issued. (see appendix)

GOVERNMENT MOTION

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Duncan:

That this Assembly support the made-in-Saskatchewan climate change plan, titled *Prairie Resilience: A Made-in-Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy*; and

That this Assembly affirms that the strategy recognizes the importance of our resource-based economy, will reduce emissions, and help Saskatchewan communities mitigate and adapt to climate change.

A debate arising, it was moved by Ms. Sproule:

That all words after “Assembly” be deleted and the following added:

Recognizes that we all borrow our future from our grandchildren; and

That this Assembly recognizes the importance of strengthening a diverse energy sector while reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

That any plan supported by this Assembly must include targets, clear supports for Saskatchewan families, producers, and businesses, and assurances that Saskatchewan will be protected from a federally imposed carbon tax; and further

That this Assembly show leadership in reducing carbon emissions and gain credibility for our province when it comes to protecting the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we grow our food on.

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, the question being put on the amendment, it was negated on division.

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

YEAS—42

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

NAYS—11

Sarauer	Chartier	Belanger	Sproule	Forbes
Rancourt	Mowat	McCall	Beck	Meili
Wotherspoon				

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Summary of resolutions adopted:

GENERAL REVENUE FUND

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2017–2018

MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ended March 31, 2018 the following sums:

BUDGETARY EXPENSES

1.	For Advanced Education	\$20,000,000
2.	For Environment.....	20,080,000
3.	For Health.....	36,500,000
4.	For Justice.....	12,000,000
5.	For Social Services	29,000,000

Moved by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

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 31, 2018, the sum of one hundred seventeen million, five hundred eighty thousand dollars be granted out of the general revenue fund.

The said resolution was reported, read twice and agreed to, and the committee given leave to sit again.

The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 2)

Moved by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 117—The Appropriation Act, 2017 (No. 2) be introduced and read the first time.

The question being put, it was agreed to and the said bill was, accordingly, read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly and pursuant to rule 32(1)(e), the said bill was then read a second and third time and passed under its title.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Brkich:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:46 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Corey Tochor
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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

Question no. 83 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, what categories of educators and support positions as outlined in the ministry's education sector staffing profile are included in the ministry's calculations for student-to-teacher ratios provided in written question no. 19 tabled on November 22, 2017?

Answer:

All educator full-time equivalents (FTEs) employed on September 30 in provincial school divisions were used in the calculation of the student-teacher ratios. This includes FTEs assigned to regular classroom teaching, distance learning teaching, student support services teaching, English as an additional language teaching, counselling, teacher librarian, in-school administration, director, assistant director, superintendent, consultant, coordinator, psychologist, speech-language pathologists, and other educator positions. Although non-certificated educator positions such as education assistants and non-educator counsellors, speech-language pathologists, counsellors, and psychologists support students in classrooms and schools, these FTE positions were not included in the calculation of student-educator ratios.

Question no. 84 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how much funding was provided to qualified independent schools in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

2012–13—\$2.1M
2013–14—\$3.5M
2014–15—\$4.3M
2015–16—\$4.3M
2016–17—\$4.4M
2017–18—\$4.4M

Question no. 85 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how many students were funded in qualified independent schools in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

2012–13—564.5
2013–14—702.5
2014–15—734
2015–16—685
2016–17—698.5
2017–18—834

Question no. 86 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how much funding was provided to historical schools in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

2012–13—\$4.4M
2013–14—\$4.7M
2014–15—\$5.0M
2015–16—\$5.1M
2016–17—\$5.1M
2017–18—\$4.9M

Question no. 87 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how many students were funded in historical schools in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

2012–13—639
2013–14—645
2014–15—650
2015–16—668
2016–17—655
2017–18—682

Question no. 88 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how much funding was provided for home-schooling in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

Funding for home schooled students is not calculated separately; these students are included in several enrolment driven components of the funding distribution model. These components include governance, administration, base instruction, supports for learning and instructional resources. Home schooled students require different resources than students attending schools and are counted as half a full-time equivalent student in the model. The majority of funding provided through the model is unconditional and is not intended to prescribe the amount of funding allocated to school divisions for home schooled students.

Question no. 89 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, how many students were funded for home-schooling in 2012–13, 2013–14, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, and 2017–18?

Answer:

2012–13—1981
2013–14—2096
2014–15—2151
2015–16—2225
2016–17—2341
2017–18—2467

Question no. 90 (Ms. Beck):

To the Minister of Education, for each school division, how much funding was specifically provided to divisions to fund new staffing positions in the schools that opened in the 2017–18 school year?

Answer:

Funding allocated to school divisions for pre-kindergarten to grade 12 education is allocated through a high level funding distribution model. Funding is not provided by student, by school or for specific staffing positions. When new schools are opened, the schools, the school space and the school enrolments are added to the funding distribution model and included in the calculation used to determine school division funding. The formulas are a mechanism to distribute available funding and each board of education makes individual staffing decisions within their allocated budget to meet local priorities.

Question no. 91 (Mr. Forbes):

To the Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board, how many applications were received by Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) for cost relief in each of the last fifteen years?

Answer:

As a regular process, all claims are reviewed by WCB operations staff for cost relief. There is not a process to determine how many requests come from employers for initial or additional review of cost relief. The WCB does receive appeals regarding cost relief, as below.

Appeals Department		Board Appeal Tribunal	
	Total		Total
2016	159	2016	41
2015	92	2015	54
2014	85	2014	10
2013	93	2013	12
2012	49	2012	5
2011	37	2011	21
2010	43	2010	10
2009	28	2009	5
2008	40	2008	7
2007	34	2007	18
2006	39	2006	12
2005	59	2005	26
2004	67	2004	21
2003	85	2003	16
2002	69	2002	18

Note: not all requests for cost relief received through the appeals process are granted.

Question no. 92 (Mr. Forbes):

To the Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board, how many applications were granted by WCB for cost relief in each of the last fifteen years?

Answer:

The table below indicates the number of claims that have had costs transferred from the employer fund into the second injury fund, the occupational disease fund, or the disaster relief fund.

	Total
2002	1,909
2003	1,223
2004	1,109
2005	847
2006	822
2007	697
2008	671
2009	627
2010	554
2011	434
2012	352
2013	966
2014	703
2015	988

2016	742
2017	781

Question no. 93 (Mr. Forbes):

To the Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board, what was the total cost of cost relief paid by WCB in each of the last fifteen years?

Answer:

When cost relief is provided this amount is not "paid" to the employer, rather the costs are removed from the employer's account therefore impacting the firm's experience rating.

Costs Relieved from Employer Fund,
by year of decision

2002	\$38,033,047
2003	\$20,834,756
2004	\$18,661,537
2005	\$19,926,702
2006	\$13,883,470
2007	\$21,051,753
2008	\$13,009,512
2009	\$13,971,808
2010	\$12,014,950
2011	\$5,318,496
2012	\$17,301,833
2013	\$42,738,219
2014	\$33,318,664
2015	\$42,096,323
2016	\$24,820,160
2017	\$21,812,260

Question no. 94 (Mr. Forbes):

To the Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board, what was the total cost of cost relief paid by WCB in each of the last fifteen years to health regions?

Answer:

As indicated in the answer to question no. 93—when cost relief is provided this amount is not "paid" to the employer, rather the costs are removed from the employer's account therefore impacting the firm's experience rating. In reporting costs relieved from health regions, the WCB considered the health regions as they are presently structured, as opposed to how they were structured in the past when individual facilities may have had their own WCB account, instead of being rolled into a particular health region.

Costs Relieved from Employer Fund,
by year of decision

All health regions

2002	\$1,059,967
2003	\$1,042,965
2004	\$737,584
2005	\$1,211,548
2006	\$607,529

2007	\$3,026,919
2008	\$1,416,857
2009	\$840,312
2010	\$1,507,125
2011	\$383,770
2012	\$3,198,253
2013	\$17,124,118
2014	\$6,020,291
2015	\$4,559,184
2016	\$3,612,374
2017	\$2,041,984

Question no. 96 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings, what was the value of the provincial government contribution in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 (to date)?

Answer:

The amount of cash provided to SAGES beneficiaries in each year is outlined as follows:

Fiscal Year	Total SAGES Payments
2013–14	\$98,688.44
2014–15	\$6,647,383.08
2015–16	\$7,864,822.04
2016–17	\$10,694,462.03
2017–18*	\$5,957,204.96

*As of end of November 2017

Question no. 97 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings, what was the program utilization (number of people) in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 (to date)?

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 amount of beneficiaries that have received the SAGES benefit:

Fiscal Year	Total SAGES Recipients as the End of each Year
2013–14	36,357
2014–15	43,879
2015–16	51,809
2016–17	60,071
2017–18*	64,441

*Year to date.

QUESTIONS ORDERED FOR RETURN

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

Return no. 46 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, the number of graduates there were in 2013-14 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 47 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, what the enrolment was for 2013-14 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 48 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, what the enrolment was for 2014-15 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 49 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, the number of graduates there were in 2014-15 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 50 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, what the enrolment was for 2015-16 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 51 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, the number of graduates there were in 2015-16 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 52 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, what the enrolment was for 2016-17 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.

Return no. 53 (Ms. Rancourt):

To the Minister of Advanced Education, in terms of programs offered at Northlands College, the number of graduates there were in 2015-16 year for three-year Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, degree nursing, Bachelor of Social Work, pre-engineering and science, pre-professional studies, business administration diploma, liberal arts certificate and diploma, local government authority certificate, certificate in public relations, and part-time university studies.