



No. 20

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THIRD SESSION — TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

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: Wotherspoon, Goudy, Sproule, Forbes, Mowat, and McCall.

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 reinstate PST exemption on construction.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 12)

To overhaul Saskatchewan campaign finance laws.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 14)

To stop the federal government from imposing a carbon tax on the province.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 16)

To immediately call for a judicial inquiry and forensic audit into the GTH (Global Transportation Hub) land deal.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 25)

To restore the governance structure of the Wascana Centre Authority and end the commercialization of Wascana Park.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 26)

SPEAKER TABLES REPORTS

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the following:

Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan: Business and financial plan for the year ended March 31, 2020
(Sessional paper no. 63)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The order of the day being called for question nos. 16 to 18, 20, and 21, pursuant to rule 21(6), the questions were converted and orders for return were issued. (see appendix)

The order of the day being called for question nos. 15, 19, and 22 to 30, they were answered. (see appendix)

SECOND READINGS / DEUXIÈME LECTURE

Bill No. 159 — The Securities Amendment Act, 2018

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 159 — The Securities Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Sproule, adjourned.

Bill No. 160 — The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 160 — The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Sproule, adjourned.

Bill No. 161 — The Trespass to Property Consequential Amendments Act, 2018 **Projet de loi no 161 — Loi de 2018 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Trespass to Property** **Amendment Act, 2018**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 161 — The Trespass to Property Consequential Amendments Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

L'hon. M. Morgan propose: Que le projet de loi n° 161 — Loi de 2018 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Trespass to Property Amendment Act, 2018 soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Sproule, adjourned.

Il s'élève un débat et sur motion de Mme Sproule, le débat est ajourné.

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 145 — The Residential Services Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Merriman: That Bill No. 145 — The Residential Services Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Beck, adjourned.

Bill No. 147 — The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Eyre: That Bill No. 147 — The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Wotherspoon, adjourned.

Bill No. 148 — The Pipelines Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Eyre: That Bill No. 148 — The Pipelines Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Forbes, adjourned.

Bill No. 149 — The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 149 — The Police (Regional Policing) Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. McCall, adjourned.

Bill No. 150 — The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 150 — The Seizure of Criminal Property Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Beck, adjourned.

Bill No. 151 — The Personal Property Security Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 151 — The Personal Property Security Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Mowat, adjourned.

Bill No. 152 — The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2018

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 152 — The Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Forbes, adjourned.

Bill No. 154 — The Intestate Succession Act, 2018
Projet de loi n° 154 — Loi de 2018 sur les successions non testamentaires

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 154 — The Intestate Succession Act, 2018 be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. Morgan: Que le projet de loi n° 154 — Loi de 2018 sur les successions non testamentaires soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Sproule, adjourned.

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de Mme Sproule, il est ajourné.

Bill No. 155 — The Legislation Act
Projet de loi n° 155 — Loi sur la législation

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That That Bill No. 155 — The Legislation Act be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. Morgan: Que le projet de loi n° 155 — Loi sur la législation soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Beck, adjourned.

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de Mme Beck, il est ajourné.

Pursuant to rule 6(7), the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Assembly.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Mark Docherty
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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

Question no. 15 (Ms. Sproule):

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation, in terms of the net metering program, (a) how many applications for net metering and preliminary interconnection study were received, (b) what was the total value of study fees received to date, (c) how many approval letters and net metering interconnection agreements were received for your signature, (d) how much did SaskPower spend on rebates through this program to date, (e) are there plans to extend and/or renew the program after the November 30 application deadline, and (f) if the program is extended and/or renewed, is the rebate framework expected to remain the same?

Answer:

- (a) As of November 21, 2018, SaskPower has received 1,542 program applications.
- (b) SaskPower has collected fees for a total of \$433,755 since 2008.
- (c) Net metering interconnection agreements are approved by SaskPower.
- (d) SaskPower has spent \$6,997,829 on net metering rebates.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) Yes.

Question no. 19 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister of Health, how many incident reports of soiled or dangerous linen were reported each year since 2012?

Answer:

Over 90 million pieces of linen (approximately 27 million pounds) are processed annually. Standard provincial processes for alerts were put in place in 2016. 11 incidents have since been reported.

Question no. 22 (Mr. Vermette):

To the Government, (a) does the Pelican Narrows airport currently meet the standards required for year-round fixed wing air ambulance service, and (b) what reports, studies, or analysis support the government's conclusion?

Answer:

- (a) The Pelican Narrows airport meets the standards for year-round medevac service by Twin Otter aircraft. The airport can be used by King Air aircraft during the winter.
- (b) California Bearing Ratio (CBR) testing is done to determine the strength of the runway, which in turn determines the type of aircraft that can use the runway. CBR testing is scheduled to be done every three years. Battery operated lights are available for nighttime medevac flights.

Question no. 23 (Mr. Pedersen):

To the Minister of Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation, in terms of the reference on page 18 of the 2017–2018 Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation annual report where it lists \$1,592,089,000 in assets as “due from the Government of Saskatchewan General Revenue Fund”, (a) as this is listed as an asset for the SCIC, is there a corresponding liability accounted for in general revenue fund accounting, (b) if there is a corresponding liability, where it is listed or recorded, and (c) if there is no corresponding liability, why not?

Answer:

- (a) Yes, there is a corresponding liability recorded in the financial records of the general revenue fund.
- (b) The corresponding liability is recorded in the general revenue fund accounts as ‘deposits held on behalf of the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation’.
- (c) N/A

Question no. 24 (Mr. Pedersen):

To the Minister of Finance, in terms of the reference on page 18 of the 2017–2018 Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation annual report where it lists \$1,592,089,000 in assets as “due from the Government of Saskatchewan General Revenue Fund”, (a) as this is listed as an asset for the SCIC, is there a corresponding liability accounted for in general revenue fund accounting, (b) if there is a corresponding liability, where it is listed or recorded, and (c) if there is no corresponding liability, why not?

Answer:

- (a) Yes, there is a corresponding liability recorded in the financial records of the general revenue fund.
- (b) The corresponding liability is recorded in the general revenue fund accounts as ‘deposits held on behalf of the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation’.
- (c) N/A

Question no. 25 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, in terms of projections in the 2018–19 budget, (a) what was the estimated revenue from the PST rate increase from 5% to 6%, (b) what was the estimated revenue from applying the PST to purchases of children’s clothing, (c) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to snack foods and restaurant meals, (d) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to construction material and labour components of the service charges for the real property (e) what was the estimated revenue from the eliminated commission allowance of tax collections, and (f) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to insurance premiums?

Answer:

- (a) \$261.3 million.
- (b) \$16.8 million.
- (c) \$102.0 million.
- (d) \$318.0 million.
- (e) \$9.0 million.
- (f) \$121.9 million.

Question no. 26 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, in the first two quarters of the 2018–19 year (or last recorded), (a) what was the actual revenue from the PST rate increase from 5% to 6%, (b) what was the actual revenue from applying the PST to purchases of children’s clothing, (c) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to snack foods and restaurant meals, (d) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to construction material and labour components of the service charges for the real property (e) what was the actual revenue from the eliminated commission allowance of tax collections, and (f) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to insurance premiums?

Answer:

To date, PST revenues are on track with the budget estimate.

Question no. 27 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, in terms of projections in the 2017–18 budget, (a) what was the estimated revenue from the PST rate increase from 5% to 6%, (b) what was the estimated revenue from applying the PST to purchases of children’s clothing, (c) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to snack foods and restaurant meals, (d) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to construction material and labour components of the service charges for the real property (e) what was the estimated revenue from the eliminated commission allowance of tax collections, and (f) what was the estimated revenue from applying PST to insurance premiums?

Answer:

- (a) \$242.1 million.
- (b) \$15.6 million.
- (c) \$94.5 million.
- (d) \$344.6 million.
- (e) \$9.0 million.
- (f) \$157.9 million.

Question no. 28 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, in the 2017–18 year, (a) what was the actual revenue from the PST rate increase from 5% to 6%, (b) what was the actual revenue from applying the PST to purchases of children’s clothing, (c) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to snack foods and restaurant meals, (d) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to construction material and labour components of the service charges for the real property (e) what was the actual revenue from the eliminated commission allowance of tax collections, and (f) what was the actual revenue from applying PST to insurance premiums?

Answer:

PST revenues are not collected/remitted by vendors by product type so actual revenue from any particular commodity is difficult to determine. However, 2017-18 PST revenue was on track with expectations, subject to revised forecasts for construction services and insurance due to post-budget policy clarifications and changes.

- The estimated revenue from construction services was reduced by \$50 million after it was clarified that the tax was not supposed to apply to downhole work in the oil and gas sector and by a further \$97 million after the value of grandfathered construction projects was determined.
- The revenue estimate for insurance was reduced by \$65 million after it was decided to retroactively reverse the application of tax on agricultural and life/health insurance.

Question no. 29 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, what economic impact analysis was conducted into the 2017–18 PST changes on, (a) the construction industry, (b) retail sales of children’s clothes, (c) food and beverage industry, and (d) insurance industry?

Answer:

An economic impact analysis was conducted using an econometric model of the Saskatchewan economy. The impact of the entire suite of PST changes was measured, *ceteris paribus*, to the base case economic forecast. The econometric model is a large-scale annual econometric model of the Saskatchewan economy consisting of 2,895 variables. The structure of the model is based on a hybrid Keynesian income-expenditure approach consistent with the way Statistics Canada measures economic activity. In the short-run, the model’s properties are similar to those of Keynesian models, while over the long-run, the model’s properties are consistent with neoclassical theory.

Question no. 30 (Mr. Wotherspoon):

To the Minister of Finance, what were the findings of economic impact analysis conducted into the 2017–18 PST changes on, (a) the construction industry, (b) retail sales of children’s clothes, (c) food and beverage industry, and (d) insurance industry?

Answer:

The impact of the PST measures in total on real GDP (gross domestic product) growth were reported on page 8 of the 2017-18 budget document as minus 0.11 percentage points in 2017, minus 0.23 percentage points in 2018, minus 0.20 percentage points in 2019, minus 0.15 percentage points in 2020 and minus 0.14 percentage points in 2021. As the analysis was conducted on the entire suite of PST changes, the impacts cannot be disaggregated into components.

QUESTIONS ORDERED FOR RETURN

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

Return no. 9 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister of Health, for each vendor-sponsored trip taken by eHealth or Saskatchewan Health Authority (or former health region) employees since 2008, (a) the vendor that paid for the trip, (b) the destination, (c) what was paid for (i.e. flights, accommodations, meals, per diems, registration fees, seminars, event tickets, etc.), (d) the date and length of the trip, (e) the number of employees that participated, (f) if there were any additional costs incurred to the ministry, eHealth, or the provincial health authority (or former health regions), and (g) contracts that were awarded to the vendor after the date of travel by eHealth, the ministry, or the provincial health authority (or former health regions).

Return no. 10 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Government, for each vendor-sponsored trip taken by government employees since 2008, (a) the vendor that paid for the trip, (b) the destination, (c) what was paid for (i.e. flights, accommodations, meals, per diems, registration fees, seminars, event tickets, etc.), (d) the date and length of the trip, (e) the number of employees that participated, (f) if there were any additional costs incurred to the government, and (g) contracts that were awarded to the vendor after the date of travel by any government ministries.

Return no. 11 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Government, for each vendor-sponsored trip taken by Crown corporation employees since 2008, (a) the vendor that paid for the trip, (b) the destination, (c) what was paid for (i.e. flights, accommodations, meals, per diems, registration fees, seminars, event tickets, etc.), (d) the date and length of the trip, (e) the number of employees that participated, (f) if there were any additional costs incurred to the Crown, and (g) contracts that were awarded to the vendor after the date of travel by any Crowns.

Return no. 12 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Government, for ministries, health regions, or Crowns that have received funding from drug or pharmaceutical companies for education purposes, (a) the funding source, (b) when it was provided, (c) that amount that was received, and (d) the purpose of the funding.

Return no. 13 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister of Health, for each month since January 2016, the number of unplanned system outages eHealth has experienced.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Monday:

Hon. Mr. Morgan to move first reading of Bill No. 163 — The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2018

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 18 and are to be answered by day no. 23:

Question no. 31 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister Responsible for eHealth, in terms of eHealth's payment of \$6,240,750 for goods and services paid to DeLage Landen Financial Services Canada in the 2017–18 year, (a) what was the good or service provided in the/each contract, (b) what were the deliverables, (c) what is the term of the contract(s), and (d) what tendering process was undertaken?

Question no. 32 (Ms. Chartier):

To the Minister Responsible for eHealth, in terms of the external investigations undertaken by legal firms into employee conduct at eHealth, (a) which firms were involved with each, (b) what was the cost of each, (c) what was the scope of each of the investigations, (d) what organization's employees were interviewed as part of the investigations, (e) how many contracts were reviewed as part of the investigations, (f) how many years' worth of contracts were reviewed, (g) what date were the investigations presented to eHealth's board of directors, and (h) what were the recommendations, conclusions, and/or findings of the board of directors following the review of the investigations?

The following questions were given notice on day no. 20 and are to be answered by day no. 25:

Question no. 33 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister Responsible for eHealth, in terms of contracts for external consultants, (a) what is the policy on hiring outside consultants, (b) how many external consultants were hired and/or awarded contracts in each year since 2012, (c) what are the names of consultants or consultant companies in each year since 2012, (d) what was the expenditure on external consultants in each year since 2012, and (e) what oversight exists related to the decision to hire an external consultant over internal expertise?

Question no. 34 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister Responsible for eHealth, for each contract entered into by eHealth since 2013, (a) what was the good or service, (b) what was the value of the contract, (c) who was awarded the contract, (d) was the contract tendered, (e) if so, how was it tendered, and (f) what level of management oversight was involved?

Question no. 35 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister Responsible for eHealth, in terms of the citizen health information portal (CHIP), (a) what is the contractual relationship between Telus Health, eHealth, and Get Real Health, (b) what were the costs associated with the pilot, (c) what costs have been incurred since the six-month pilot ended, (d) if any exist, what were the costs incurred after the pilot ended and for what services were they incurred, (e) what was the per patient cost for those involved in the CHIP pilot, (f) as part of the contractual relationship, exactly what data has been shared with Telus Health, (g) as part of the contractual relationship, exactly what data has been shared with Get Real Health, (h) as part of this contractual relationship, what are all the geographical locations this data is stored, (i) what options exist for eHealth to terminate the contractual relationship with either Telus or Get Real Health, (j) if the relationship is terminated, what options exist for all data shared to be fully returned and housed in Saskatchewan, (k) beyond CHIP, what if any uses can the data associated with the pilot be used for and by whom, (l) when is phase two of the CHIP pilot expected to begin, (m) has the phase two contract been signed, and (n) if so, what was the cost?

Question no. 36 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister of Health, in terms of telehealth services through the Saskatchewan Health Authority, (a) what is required for physicians and clinicians to be approved to see patients via telehealth and ensure the services they provide will be paid for, (b) how many sites are approved as telehealth sites, (c) how many physicians saw patients via telehealth in each year since 2013, (d) how many discreet patients have been seen by telehealth in each year since 2013, and (e) how many total visits were provided through telehealth in each year since 2013?

Question no. 37 (Ms. Mowat):

To the Minister of Health, in terms of opioid assisted therapies, (a) how many doctors and nurse practitioners have provided them in each year since 2013, (b) in which communities are they available, (c) how many discreet patients have received them in each year since 2013, and (d) how much was spent on them in the year since 2013?

Question no. 38 (Mr. Belanger):

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure, in terms of the intersection where Highway 335 and Highway 35, also known as Armley Corner, (a) for each year since 2008, how many complaints were reported from the public, and (b) for each year since 2008, what safety modifications were added or undertaken?

Question no. 39 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections and Policing, (a) have there been any disruptions in phone services at Provincial Correctional Centre since January 1, 2018, (b) for each disruption, when did it take place, (c) where did it take place, and (d) how long did it last?

Question no. 40 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections and Policing, (a) what is the design capacity at the White Spruce Correctional Training Centre, (b) what is the operational capacity at the White Spruce Correctional Training Centre, and (c) what has the total inmate count been at the White Spruce Correctional Training Centre each month since January 2018?

Question no. 41 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Social Services, (a) when was the last time youth homelessness was quantified, and (b) what were the results of this quantification?

Question no. 42 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Social Services, what specific measures has the ministry undertaken to address youth homelessness?

Question no. 43 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Social Services, in terms of research and/or studies undertaken related to youth homelessness in Saskatchewan, (a) what are the names of these studies, (b) when were they undertaken, (c) what was the criteria used, and (d) what were the findings?