



No. 32

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FOURTH SESSION — TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

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: Vermette, Weekes, Wotherspoon, Sarauer, Forbes, Belanger, Beck, and Sproule.

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 work towards an agreement with northern communities for responsible and inclusive resource management.

(Sessional paper no. 87)

To reinstate PST exemption on construction.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 4)

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

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 5)

To raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour for all workers.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 6)

To immediately fix the crisis in our classrooms.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 25)

To fund and execute a plan to reduce and end emergency wait times.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 30)

To restore public control over Wascana Park.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 84)

To place a moratorium on logging in the Nesslin Lake area.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 86)

**STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
(Unparliamentary language)**

Yesterday, March 10, 2020, the Government House Leader (Hon. Mr. Harrison) raised two points of order concerning the remarks made by the Member for Regina Rosemont (Mr. Wotherspoon) during debate on Bill No. 194 — The Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, 2019. The member is alleged to have used unparliamentary language to which the Opposition House Leader (Ms. Sproule) requested I review the record before making a ruling. I have reviewed the record and will now address each of the comments that aggrieved the Government House Leader.

I will begin with the use of the word hypocritical. The Government House Leader referenced two Speaker's rulings from 1961, when the word was ruled to be unparliamentary. The reference is from Beauchesne's *Parliamentary Rules and Forms*, 6th Edition, paragraph 489 on page 146. If the Government House Leader had turned to page 148, paragraph 490, he would have found that other forms of the word hypocritical, such as hypocrisy and hypocrites, had been ruled parliamentary. Beauchesne, in fact, states, "No language is, by virtue of any list, acceptable or unacceptable." In pointing this out I want to refer members to a ruling of Speaker Toth, who provided guidance in such matters, when he stated on December 7, 2010:

...that the context and use of the word is key to determining whether or not it is acceptable. One of the acceptability tests is cited in *The House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, 2nd Edition, at page 614, which is as follows: "Remarks directed specifically at another Member which question that Member's integrity, honesty or character are not in order."

In a ruling dated November 19, 2004, Speaker Kowalsky ruled that the word hypocritical when applied to an individual is not in order. It is clear from the yesterday's *Hansard* on page 6845 that the Member for Regina Rosemont directed his comments more broadly to government policy and not any particular members of the government. For that reason, I find the point of order not well taken in this instance.

The other remark the Government House Leader found offensive was the phrase "filling the pockets of friends and insiders." I have reviewed the record and can confirm the expression was said by the Member for Regina Rosemont. I find the way this expression was used to be more troubling. It was used in a context to insinuate that members of the government had acted in an unethical manner. I want to remind members that it is not acceptable to question each other's integrity, honesty, or character. There are numerous rulings to this effect in the *Journals* of this Assembly, but I want to point out what Speaker Kowalsky said on June 13, 2003. He said that the words themselves do not always fall into the strict category of unacceptable language but, if they convey an unmistakable impression, then they must be reviewed in the greater context such as whether the intent is to impute bad motives such as illegalities or immorality or being unethical. As he said, there are limits to how far members should be allowed to go.

The comments used by the Member for Regina Rosemont crossed the line. I've had to remind the Member for Regina Rosemont about such provocative language in the past. For that reason, I find the point of order well taken and ask the Member for Regina Rosemont to rise, withdraw the remark, and apologize. Let's try to be better when we debate the issues of the day and not disparage each other with insults or insinuations of impropriety. I now call on the Member for Regina Rosemont.

Thereupon, the Member from Regina Rosemont withdrew his comments and apologized.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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 considered as amended and read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 200 — The Saskatchewan Employment Amendment Act, 2019

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 195 — The Lobbyists Amendment Act, 2019

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 195 — The Lobbyists Amendment Act, 2019 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 196 — The Members' Conflict of Interest Amendment Act, 2019

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 196 — The Members' Conflict of Interest Amendment Act, 2019 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 197 — The Automobile Accident Insurance Amendment Act, 2019

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Hargrave: That Bill No. 197 — The Automobile Accident Insurance Amendment Act, 2019 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 198 — The Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2019

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Hargrave: That Bill No. 198 — The Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2019 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 199 — The Opioid Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Reiter: That Bill No. 199 — The Opioid Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 201 — The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2019**Projet de loi n° 201 — Loi modificative de 2019 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Makowsky: That Bill No. 201 — The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2019 be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. Makowsky: Que le projet de loi n° 201 — Loi modificative de 2019 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

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

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de M. McCall, il est ajourné.

Bill No. 203 — The Financial Planners and Financial Advisors Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 203 — The Financial Planners and Financial Advisors Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 204 — The Jury Amendment Act, 2019**Projet de loi n° 204 — Loi modificative de 2019 sur le jury**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 204 — The Jury Amendment Act, 2019 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° 204 — Loi modificative de 2019 sur le jury soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

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

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de M. Forbes, il est ajourné.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:43 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Mark Docherty
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS, AND PAPERS TABLED

By the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

Bylaws, rules, and regulations of the following professional associations and amendments thereto under provisions of the respective Acts:

- College of Physicians and Surgeons of the province of Saskatchewan
- Funeral and Cremation Services Council
- Law Society of Saskatchewan
- Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists
- Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists
- Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
- Saskatchewan College of Psychologists
- The Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 26)