

# STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

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## STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Ms. Nadine Wilson, Chair Saskatchewan Rivers

Mr. Buckley Belanger, Deputy Chair Athabasca

> Hon. Wayne Elhard Cypress Hills

Mr. Glen Hart Last Mountain-Touchwood

> Mr. Roger Parent Saskatoon Meewasin

Mr. Warren Steinley Regina Walsh Acres

Mr. Corey Tochor Saskatoon Eastview

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS April 29, 2013

[The committee met at 09:56.]

**The Chair**: — Yes, good morning, everyone. Good morning, gentlemen. Thank you for attending. Being it almost 10 o'clock, I think we will proceed with the Private Bills Committee. I'd like to welcome and introduce members of the committee. We have Mr. Hart, Mr. Parent, Mr. Steinley, Mr. Tochor. And substituting for Mr. Belanger, we have Mr. McCall.

### Bill No. 901 — The Orange Benevolent Society Repeal Act

#### Clause 1

**The Chair:** — So today before the committee is Bill No. 901, *The Orange Benevolent Society Repeal Act* and Bill No. 902, *The Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon Amendment Act*, 2013.

Today we'll begin with the Bill 901, clause 1, short title. And welcome, Mr. Hart. Mr. Hart is the sponsor of the bill today, and I'll have you introduce the representative from the Orange Benevolent Society, please.

**Mr. Hart**: — Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning. We have with us this morning Janice McBain, the executive officer of the Orange Benevolent Society, and she's the person that will be answering any questions that committee members may have on this bill. Thank you.

**The Chair**: — And joining us is Mr. Hart. Thank you.

Mr. Hart: — The late Mr. Elhard.

**The Chair**: — We started a little early, so I'm sorry about that.

So welcome to you from the Orange Benevolent Society. First of all, I'll explain the process. We'll have the Law Clerk, Mr. Ring, present his report on the bill to the committee. And then I will ask Mr. Hart and Ms. McBain to make comments and answer any questions committee members may have. Then we will proceed to clause-by-clause consideration of the bill.

Mr. Ring, will you present your report please, which will be tabled.

Mr. Ring: — Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I've examined this private bill and am pleased to report it is drawn in accordance with the rules of this Legislative Assembly respecting private bills. I am also pleased to report that, in my opinion, it contains no provisions that are at variance with the usual provisions of private Acts on similar subjects or that are deserving of special attention. I would like to thank the Orange Benevolent Society for thinking of repealing its incorporating legislation as part of the winding up of the Orange Benevolent Society. Thank you very much.

**The Chair**: — Does the committee have any questions? Any comments? Mr. Hart.

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Madam Chair. I'll just make a couple of comments.

The Orange Benevolent Society has concluded its work. It was

first incorporated in the 1920s and did a lot of good work in Saskatchewan. But it was proactive in 2010. I had sponsored a bill for the society that put provisions in place in its Act to deal with today. Back in 2010, one of the provisions that was put in place was the procedure for winding down the society. And in fact that is what we are doing here today. This bill will repeal the Orange Benevolent Society, and it'll cease operation.

[10:00]

I think, as the Law Clerk said, I think we certainly must compliment the society on being proactive and making sure that its Act has provisions for winding down the society, and I would like to also thank them. Those are my comments, Madam Chair

**The Chair:** — Thank you very much. Does the committee have any questions? No? Ms. McBain, do you have any comments please?

Ms. McBain: — I think I would just like to say on behalf of the Orange Benevolent Society and its long run in this province that we were a very proud and privileged group to be able to have done our charitable work in this province for the past almost 90 years. And so I thank the Government of Saskatchewan for allowing us that opportunity and for, I think, enjoying our participation in the work in this province. Thank you.

**The Chair:** — Thank you very much. If there are no questions, we'll begin clause-by-clause consideration. Clause 1, short title; is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Clause 1 agreed to.]

[Clauses 2 and 3 agreed to.]

[Preamble agreed to.]

**The Chair**: —Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows: *The Orange Benevolent Society Repeal Act*. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members**: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried. Now I'll have a member move the following motion:

That the committee report Bill No. 901, *The Orange Benevolent Society Repeal Act* without amendment.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard**: — I so move.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried. And I'll have another member move:

That the fees respecting Bill No. 901, *The Orange Benevolent Society Repeal Act* be waived.

Mr. Steinley: — I so move.

**The Chair**: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried. Well thank you, Mr. Hart and Ms. McBain. That's been very positive work this morning. Thank you.

Ms. McBain: — Thanks a lot.

**The Chair**: — You're quite welcome.

Bill No. 902 — The Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon Amendment Act, 2013

#### Clause 1

**The Chair:** — Could we have the witnesses up, please? Thank you. Now we'll proceed to the next item on the agenda which is Bill No. 902, clause 1, short title.

The committee will proceed in the same way. Thank you, Mr. Kirsch, the sponsor of the bill, and Erin Little, I believe, representing Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon, and Richard Lungal.

**Mr. Lungal**: — I'm vice-president of corporate services with LutherCare Communities.

**The Chair:** — Thank you for attending and coming today. Now the Law Clerk, Mr. Ring, will present his report which will be tabled.

Mr. Ring: — Thank you, Madam Chair. I've examined this private bill and am pleased to report that it is drawn in accordance with the rules of Legislative Assembly respecting private bills. I'm also pleased to report that, in my opinion, it contains no provisions that are at variance with the usual provisions of private Acts on similar subjects or that are deserving of special attention. Thank you very much.

**The Chair:** — Thank you, Mr. Ring. Any questions from the members? Yes.

**Mr. McCall**: — Just a quick question, Madam Chair, and welcome to the member and guests. Just a quick question on how this bill changes the debt-carrying capacity of the organization from what it is presently to what it will be following the passage of this Act.

Mr. Lungal: — It doesn't change the debt that the organization is carrying currently, but I think it will allow the organization to function and to be able to operate into the future and take advantage of any opportunities that it may see in the future to support the elderly within the province. So I think that would be beneficial for the organization.

Mr. McCall: — No, I'm certainly not disputing that. I'm just

wondering what it does in terms of current approaches to debt and the carrying of that debt, and what the go-forward is.

**Mr. Lungal**: — I don't think it changes. We currently carry mortgages and so forth on our books in order to carry out the functions of the organization. And I don't think that it will have a big change on the debt-carrying capacity of the organization.

Mr. McCall: — Okay. Thank you.

**Mr. Lungal**: — You're welcome.

**The Chair:** — Thank you. Any comments by the members for Mr. Kirsch on this bill?

**Mr. Kirsch**: — Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The elderly are becoming more and more due to the baby boom factor, and organizations and groups that are willing to facilitate and help and grow are very beneficial and needed. And when you look at the reputation of Sunset Home's, Lutheran Sunset Home's, it's commendable. So I'm honoured to be sponsoring this bill, and I thank you for your support.

**The Chair**: — Thank you, Mr. Kirsch. Does the committee have any questions? Yes, Mr. Hart.

**Mr. Hart**: — Yes, Madam Chair. I'm just wondering if Mr. Kirsch or his guests could explain . . . I must admit I didn't read the bill, and I'm not sure exactly what it is the bill does. I wonder if you could just explain very briefly what it is the bill does.

**Ms. Little**: — Certainly I can speak to that. The primary purpose of amending the bill was to ensure that the corporation had all of the powers and capacity of a natural person. If you look at the wording of *The Business Corporations Act*, you'll note that that's set out very clearly. However, given that this organization wasn't incorporated under that Act or under *The Non-profit Corporations Act*, we wanted to ensure that those powers were very clearly available to the organization for the purposes of entering into contracts, things of that nature.

Mr. Hart: — Thank you. Now I know. Thank you very much.

**The Chair**: — Any other comments by the members or questions? Ms. Little, would you like to comment further on the bill? Do you have any other comments?

**Ms. Little**: — I don't think I have any further comments at this time. As I said, the primary purpose of the bill is just simply to ensure that the corporation does have the powers of a natural person.

**The Chair**: — Thank you. If there's no other comments, we'll begin clause-by-clause consideration. Clause 1, short title, is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members**: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Clause 1 agreed to.]

[Clauses 2 to 10 inclusive agreed to.]

**The Chair:** — Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows: *The Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon Amendment Act*, 2013. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members**: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried. Now I'll have the member move the following motion:

That the committee report Bill No. 902, *The Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon Amendment Act, 2013* without amendment.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — I so move.

**The Chair**: — Mr. Elhard. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. And I will have another member move . . . Mr. Tochor:

That the fees respecting Bill No. 902, *The Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon Amendment Act*, 2013 be waived.

Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — [Inaudible interjection] ... Mr. Tochor. He moved. Mr. Tochor moved already, yes. And that was agreed, so carried.

Thank you, Mr. Kirsch, Ms. Little, and Mr. Lungal. I appreciate you coming in today and moving this motion. So I appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Now the committee has a draft copy of the second reading. It's being distributed. You've got it? The second report. And once you have a chance to review it, we'll have a member move the following motion:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be adopted and presented in the Assembly.

Can I have a member move that, please?

Mr. Parent: — I so move.

The Chair: — All right. Mr. Parent. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried. And that, ladies and gentlemen, concludes today's agenda. So thank you everyone for attending, and I will ask for a member to move the adjournment motion.

**Mr. Steinley**: — I so move.

**The Chair**: — Mr. Steinley. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members**: — Agreed.

**The Chair**: — Carried and the committee stands adjourned. Thanks very much.

[The committee adjourned at 10:13.]