



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

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**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(HANSARD)

Published under the  
authority of  
The Honourable Don Toth  
Speaker



**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**

Speaker — Hon. Don Toth  
 Premier — Hon. Brad Wall  
 Leader of the Opposition — Lorne Calvert

<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
Allchurch, Denis	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Atkinson, Pat	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Belanger, Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, Hon. Bob	SP	Melville-Saltcoats
Boyd, Hon. Bill	SP	Kindersley
Bradshaw, Fred	SP	Carrot River Valley
Brkich, Greg	SP	Arm River-Watrous
Brotten, Cam	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Calvert, Lorne	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Chisholm, Michael	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
D'Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Hon. Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Furber, Darcy	NDP	Prince Albert Northcote
Gantfoer, Hon. Rod	SP	Melfort
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harper, Ron	NDP	Regina Northeast
Harrison, Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Hon. Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Higgins, Deb	NDP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Hutchinson, Hon. Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, Yogi	SP	Wood River
Iwanchuk, Andy	NDP	Saskatoon Fairview
Junor, Judy	NDP	Saskatoon Eastview
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
LeClerc, Serge	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Morin, Sandra	NDP	Regina Walsh Acres
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Quennell, Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Reiter, Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Schriemer, Joceline	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Stewart, Hon. Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Taylor, Len	NDP	The Battlefords
Tell, Hon. Christine	SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Toth, Hon. Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Yates, Kevin	NDP	Regina Dewdney

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone Centre.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Legislative Assembly six individuals seated in the Speaker's gallery. They are with the All Nations Hope youth leadership project. They are with Aboriginal youth coordinator, Jessica Parisian — if you could give us a wave there, Jessica, very good — and Chantal Lankey, youth mentor. Very good.

We'll be meeting with them very shortly, Mr. Speaker. And I'm very glad to see them in the Speaker's gallery at their legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Meadow Lake.

**Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to other members of the legislature two gentlemen seated in your gallery. Firstly my uncle, Vernon Harrison who is a lieutenant in the Saskatoon fire department, an accomplished athlete, and represented Saskatchewan at many national level slo-pitch tournaments.

And the other gentleman whose birthday it is today — 87 years old — my grandpa William Harrison who has lived all his life in the Quill Lake area on our family homestead, and is very active and follows the proceedings of this House very closely. So welcome, and happy birthday, grandpa.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatchewan Rivers.

**Ms. Wilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you in the Speaker's gallery is my president of Sask Rivers constituency, Dave Halstead. Dave teaches natural resources at SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology] in Prince Albert. So I'd like you to give him a warm welcome to his Legislative Assembly.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

**Ms. Higgins:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition that speaks to the need for maintaining quality health care services and specifically touches on the issues of

recruitment, retention, ensuring adequate staffing, adequate funding, and bargaining in good faith. And these petitions, the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to commit to maintaining quality health care services and job security for all public health care providers.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, these petitions are signed from residents in Cabri, Swift Current, Ponteix, Gull Lake, Leader, Saskatoon, Elrose, Rosetown, Herschel, Delisle, Kindersley, Eston, Flaxcombe, Tompkins, Hazlet, Watrous, and Young. Mr. Speaker, I so present.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, I wish to present petitions on behalf of residents of Saskatchewan concerned about daycare spaces. Mr. Speaker, it's well known that inadequate access to quality and affordable child care is a major roadblock for parents who want to access the labour market. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to add at least 2,000 new child care spaces in Saskatchewan by 2011.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And the petitions are signed by residents of Saskatchewan. I so present, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. speaker, I rise today to present a petition in support of affordable housing for Saskatchewan seniors — a major concern many have in the months ahead. I'd like to read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to act as quickly as possible to expand affordable housing options for Saskatchewan senior citizens.

I do so present. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Massey Place.

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to present a petition concerning the high cost of post-secondary education. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to increase funding for post-secondary students and help to alleviate the large financial burden placed on students for pursuing a post-secondary education at a Saskatchewan institution.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, this petition was circulated by the Canadian Federation of Students, the University of Regina Students' Union, the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union, and the First Nations University of Canada Students' Association. I so present.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions in support of child care in Saskatchewan. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to immediately add at least 1,000 new child care spaces in Saskatchewan.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Now these petitions are signed by concerned citizens of Saskatchewan from the communities of Oxbow, Redvers, Arcola, Carievale, and Carnduff. I so present.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

#### International Day of Persons with Disabilities

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, December 3, is International Day of Persons with Disabilities, a very special day declared by the United Nations in 1992 to promote awareness of disability issues and abilities of people with disability.

Dignity and Justice for All of Us is this year's theme, a very timely and important message as it has been estimated that 10 per cent of the world's population, or 650 million people, live with disabilities, and tragically 80 per cent of whom live in poverty. We must break this cycle of poverty and disability.

Mr. Speaker, the United Nations, in celebrating this day as well as the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights next week, is using a theme, Dignity and Justice for All

of Us, as a rallying call as these principles are far from being realized for everyone.

Dignity and justice are embodied in the civil, cultural, economic, political, and social rights promoted by the convention. Therefore now is the time to make a renewed commitment to the ratification and full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its optional protocol. We would add our voice to urge both the federal and provincial governments to do all they can to ensure quick ratification of the convention and its optional protocol as the best vehicle to ensure full and fair participation of all citizens in our society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing today as International Day of Persons with Disabilities as we all work to make Saskatchewan, Canada, and our globe a much better place to live. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Yorkton.

#### Support for Saskatchewan People with Disabilities

**Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today and advise the House that the Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed December 3 as International Day of Persons with Disabilities in Saskatchewan. Our government is pleased to join with the United Nations and people around the world to promote greater understanding of disability issues and to rally support for the dignity and inclusion of all peoples with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that 145,000 people in Saskatchewan live with disabilities, of which 6,550 are children. This year's theme is Dignity and Justice for All of Us. We are pleased as a government to have made significant announcements and to be investing millions of dollars, all to improve the lives of those with disabilities.

For years, Mr. Speaker, people with disabilities across Saskatchewan have been asking for an income support program, one that affords dignified and equitable support.

Providing much needed support programs and creating a separate disability income support program honours Saskatchewan's historic values — values that build strong communities through compassion, caring for one another, and doing our best to ensure everyone is included. Our goal, Mr. Speaker, is to help achieve full and equal enjoyment of human rights and participation in society by people with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, we are committed to making life better for today's families and building a better future for people with disabilities.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

### Canadian Merit Scholarship Winners

**Ms. Junor:** — Mr. Speaker, this past weekend the Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation chose its provincial winners and the students who would advance to the national competition. The Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation is a privately endowed fund that recognizes students with the most leadership potential, community service, and entrepreneurial spirit. The national winner is called the Loran scholar.

Mr. Speaker, the 12 student finalists came from all over Saskatchewan. Three of the finalists were from Walter Murray Collegiate in my riding of Saskatoon Eastview. Mr. Speaker, all of these special students had impressive applications. The level of community involvement, the projects initiated, not to mention more 100s that I have ever seen on an academic record, was actually humbling.

The overall winner, Divya Pahwa, comes from Walter Murray Collegiate and the second winner, Danica Kindrachuk, is from Moose Jaw. Both Divya and Danica will travel to Toronto to represent Saskatchewan in the national competition in February. The third place winner was Racheal Berger from Central Butte. Honour citations went to Carmen Currie from Regina and Tenielle Bradley from Gull Lake.

Mr. Speaker, these are all around exceptional young women and I congratulate them. I also want to congratulate all of the students who by their achievements made it to the finals in Saskatoon. I wish Divya and Danica good luck in the national competition, and all the finalists good luck in their future endeavours.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Sutherland.

### Saskatchewan Residents Teach Egyptian Children

**Ms. Schriemer:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today with pride to share with you and this House a story of two of my constituents. One of the things that I find most interesting and satisfying as an MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] is that this job allows you to share in the lives of people you serve. It allows you to listen to their stories, both happy and sad.

The people that I speak about today, Mr. Speaker, are Delmar and Betty Rempel. Del and Betty are without a doubt two of the most gentle, caring, hospitable, and spiritual human beings that I've ever met. Their story is about touching the lives of children in Egypt.

Last year Del and Betty visited Egypt, and while touring businesses supported by MEDA [Mennonite Economic Development Associates], the Mennonite economic development association, they met 12 to 15 children who were interested in photography. Lucky for them, Del has 27 years as a professional photographer and holds a Masters with four bars, so when he returned to Saskatoon, he sent the children six cameras for them to practise and told them he would return in the following year to look at their work and teach them.

Del and Betty did return to Aswan, Egypt where they were met by over 30 children who were full of excitement and wonder, aching to learn about photography and how to become a professional photographer. Del and Betty turned no child away, and the children enjoyed their learning adventure.

Del and Betty, on behalf of these children of Egypt, your fellow constituents, and members of this House, we thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

### Multicultural Council Director Becomes a Mentor

**Ms. Higgins:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Tara Blanchard, the executive director of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, recently became one of Saskatchewan's first accredited settlement workers at the mentor level, which is the highest level that can be achieved.

Tara's 65-page submission for accreditation was completed on her own time and was designed to show her proficiencies in the required areas. These included a minimum of seven years experience and a minimum of 200 hours of documented training related to settlement work.

Tara will become part of a Saskatchewan team that will mentor and assist other settlement workers to complete application for accreditation. The process serves to further professionalize the settlement sector and thereby provide consistent and standardized services to all new Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council was formed in 1974 and has been growing ever since. Their reputation for providing great service to immigrants making Moose Jaw their home is well known. Not only do they welcome the new residents, but they also have available settlement programs, language classes, a host program, employment services, and a child care facility. The Multicultural Council recognizes the richness that diversity adds to our community and actively encourages newcomers to promote and retain their heritage while embracing their new home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Tara for her accreditation and offer congratulations to the Multicultural Council for their fine work in our community. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Cypress, the Minister of Highways.

### Wickenheiser Centre in Shaunavon

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, on behalf of southwest Saskatchewan and the Cypress Hills constituency, I am proud to congratulate Sharon Dickie, the mayor of Shaunavon, for her outstanding fundraising efforts for a community project.

Shaunavon is a community where eight-year-old Hayley

Wickenheiser started her hockey career. In the last several years, Hayley Wickenheiser has become a household name. She has earned many reputable titles such as world and Olympic hockey champion and is considered by many to be the world's foremost female hockey player. She has reached the pinnacle of success, all the while remaining a lifelong ambassador for the community of Shaunavon.

To honour Hayley for all her endeavours, Mayor Sharon Dickie, along with the Shaunavon Town Council, passed a motion to name a brand new recreation facility in the community the Wickenheiser Centre.

There has been tremendous community support for this project over many years, however Mayor Dickie has been instrumental in raising funds from the business community outside of the immediate Southwest. Recently she has met with major business leaders in head offices in Calgary. To date, Mayor Dickie has raised \$765,000 from seven oil companies. As of August, a total of \$5 million have been raised for the complex. It is hoped that the facility will be open in time for the 2010 World Junior Hockey Championships which are coming to Saskatchewan. I don't think they're coming to Shaunavon however.

I would ask that you join with me in extending our congratulations and thanks to Mayor Dickie for her productive community contributions.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[13:45]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

#### **Gary Tinker Federation**

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, nearly 20 years ago Gary Tinker, who suffers from cerebral palsy, completed a 650 kilometre walk from La Ronge to Regina using crutches. This amazing journey helped inspire and pave the way for the formation of the Gary Tinker foundation, a non-profit agency and advocacy group for the disabled in northern Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, a particular focus of the Gary Tinker foundation is the employment and training of people with disabilities. The foundation's success in this area has not only helped people with disabilities find employment, but has also raised awareness among employers about the value of an eager but too often overlooked segment of the workforce.

Mr. Speaker, as vice-chairperson of the foundation, Gary Tinker is a powerful voice for persons with disabilities throughout northern Saskatchewan. His continued tireless efforts on behalf of the disabled are an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, this September in La Ronge, in conjunction with the 20th anniversary celebration of his walk, the Gary Tinker Federation is hosting a conference to discuss the many issues that affect individuals living with disabilities in northern Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Mr. Tinker, I want to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to all of the members to attend. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

#### **Proposed Land Sale**

**Ms. Morin:** — Mr. Speaker, the media reported yesterday that more than 41 000 hectares of land in northwestern Saskatchewan will be put up for auction next Monday by Saskatchewan Energy and Resources. It was also reported that several environmental organizations have reached an agreement with forest company Mistik Management and the Ministry of Environment's lands branch to designate the area in question as a protected site. It seems that in this Sask Party government, the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing. To the minister: why is the Sask Party auctioning land that the Ministry of Environment says should be protected?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

**Hon. Mr. Boyd:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are aware of the Saskatchewan Environmental Society's concerns with respect to this. Resource development in Saskatchewan will go forward as always, in the most environmentally responsible and sustainable way that we can have it done. The criteria of course for this government in terms of resource development is environmentally responsible development, socially responsible development, and of course economically responsible development.

So the concerns of the Saskatchewan Environmental Society came to light here a couple of days ago. We are looking into the areas of interest to them, and we'll certainly be making representations back.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Ms. Morin:** — Mr. Speaker, we already know the Sask Party doesn't listen to forest companies and forest communities when it comes to the future of their industry. Now we know that they also don't listen to the forest companies when they recommend designating areas as protected sites.

Mr. Speaker, the agreement between Mistik Management, several environmental NGOs [non-governmental organization], and the province was a product of a lot of co-operation on all sides. Now everyone's wondering why the Sask Party has thrown a monkey wrench into the things at the last minute.

To the minister: why is the Sask Party so deaf to any recommendation that comes out of the forestry industry?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

**Hon. Mr. Boyd:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, to the member, clearly that's not the case. We have said all along that development has to take place in an environmentally responsible fashion, a socially responsible fashion, and an economically socially responsible fashion. The area in question that the member brings to everyone's attention here was not designated as a protected area. The Environmental Society is suggesting that maybe it should be; that's a suggestion that we are willing to take a look at, and we certainly will.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh Acres.

**Ms. Morin:** — The clock is ticking, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan Environmental Society executive director, Allyson Brady, told *The StarPhoenix* that the way this is being handled is quote “. . . highlights the fact this is happening in an ad hoc, unplanned, irresponsible way.”

Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party is missing an opportunity here to provide certainty to businesses and assurances to stakeholders who try to engage in responsible land use, and that their planning work won't be in vain.

To the minister: why is the Sask Party undermining people who have made the effort to work co-operatively to resolve these issues?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

**Hon. Mr. Boyd:** — Mr. Speaker, any successful land development or oil and gas development or mining development must go through a very rigorous authorization through the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Energy and Resources. That's been the process that's been adopted by this government, followed by the previous administration as well.

The same designation that was asked for in this one is being looked at, is also the same designation that Oilsands Quest got that the former administration put in place at that time. Exactly the same process today, Mr. Speaker.

But in terms of any kind of development going forward or anything of that nature, in terms of being irresponsible, what is really irresponsible in Canada today or in Saskatchewan today is an opposition opposite that wants to take the government of the day in Ottawa down. They want to fall in bed with the separatists in Quebec today . . .

**The Speaker:** — The minister's time has elapsed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Walsh

Acres.

**Ms. Morin:** — Political grandstanding is going to be cold comfort to the people that are worried about these Canada protected sites, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there's a lot of urgency to this issue. The sale in question is planned for Monday, the Monday coming up. The window of opportunity to act is closing. The Ministers of Environment and Energy and Resources have just two days to come up with a solution. So let's help them along, Mr. Speaker, by proposing one right now.

To the Minister of Energy and Resources: yes or no, will he defer any sale of the land in question until the land in question has been designated as a protected site?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources.

**Hon. Mr. Boyd:** — Mr. Speaker, the last authorization in this area for oil and gas development was authorized by your party. The last one that came forward was to the Oilsands Quest. It was the same kind of environmental protection plan authorization and exactly the same kind of procedure that we are following that you, on that side of the House, followed at the time.

But in terms of any kind of irresponsibility, Mr. Speaker, in terms of irresponsibility, the last thing that we'll take lessons from is the NDP [New Democratic Party] opposite. The fact of the matter is, is that they are supporting the separatists in this country today. They are authorizing coalition meetings across this province today in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. The fact of the matter is, is we are in favour of a duly . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. The minister may finish his response.

**Hon. Mr. Boyd:** — The fact is, Mr. Speaker, in Saskatchewan to date people are looking at the situation in Ottawa and saying, where does the Government of Saskatchewan stand? Well clearly the Government of Saskatchewan stands on the side of the duly elected government, not on the side of the people who want to overthrow the government of this country, Mr. Speaker, as is the members that are . . .

**The Speaker:** — The minister's time has elapsed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

### Home Ownership Programs

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all know Saskatchewan is facing a labour shortage and one of the best ways to address that shortage is to ensure that Saskatchewan people can find an affordable place to live. One way to ease this pressure on the rental housing market is to give long-time renters a chance to own their own home. But the government's programs to encourage home ownership ran out of money earlier this year and the Sask Party has failed to put more

money in. They're missing an opportunity to give low-income families a chance to own their own home and at the same time reduce the pressure on the rental housing market that keeps rents so high.

To the minister: what is her plan to help low-income families who want a chance to own their own home?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member opposite should know that when his government was in power and when he was sitting at the cabinet table, they had the neighbourhood home ownership program and they let that program expire and didn't continue. So it was done when he was sitting at the cabinet table, making decisions.

Then on the eve of the election — on the eve of the election; they didn't even get the program going — it was just before the election they announced the home ownership program, which is indeed out of money. And he's right, Mr. Speaker, it is out of money.

It allows people to access money who have incomes up to 50,000. Right now in our housing situation we have to worry about the most vulnerable. We have to look at those that don't even have an income close to \$50,000, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Mr. Speaker, this government has still not replaced HomeFirst home ownership program, despite their historic surpluses. And the lack of action really is a missed opportunity. Mr. Speaker, organizations like SHIP [Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership], Regina Rescue Mission, and Sasknative Rentals, among others, have the expertise to manage home ownership and home building programs that meet the needs of their clients.

To the minister: will she commit here today to establishing a CBO [community-based organization] building fund this year so that these organizations can contribute to making home ownership more affordable for Saskatchewan families?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Again, Mr. Speaker, I'll point out that the member opposite, who sat at the cabinet table when the NDP were in power, let their existing home ownership program become useless because they didn't adjust it for today's market. On the eve of the election they announced a home ownership program. They didn't worry about it before that. And when they were on the hot seat trying to win an election is when they decided home ownership was an issue.

Mr. Speaker, we have the legislation in place. We will be forming a board that's going to look at what will work well within our market as it exists today. But what can he say about his support for his leader? Because we have a commitment by our existing federal government to help fund housing programs. Does he support the coalition that didn't mention housing?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Mr. Speaker, we'll put up our record any day of the week against their record. But I'm glad that she brought up . . .

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Forbes:** — The housing corporation Act. Well, Mr. Speaker, the vast majority of students are renters. They make up a significant portion of the renters in this province. Measures to help student renters would reduce the pressure on the rental market. We know that for sure.

Now in the past, the minister suggests that student housing is not part of her mandate. But section 19(1) of the Sask housing corporation Act clearly states, and I quote:

The corporation may encourage the construction of student housing or the acquisition of existing buildings and their conversion to student housing in areas where a need can be established for the purpose of providing adequate housing for students.

So, Mr. Speaker, she has a mandate to act. To the minister: given the historic surplus this government enjoys, why is she missing this opportunity to act on student housing?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

**Hon. Mr. Norris:** — Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for the opportunity to highlight important work that's under way regarding student housing, Mr. Speaker. That is most directly, despite the lamentable — lamentable — work that went on on the other side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker.

On this subject what we can say is, on November 21, Mr. Speaker — they might have missed it — on November 21 a 36-family unit was established for the SIAST Woodland Campus, Mr. Speaker, reinforcing support for post-secondary students in safe, affordable, quality homes, Mr. Speaker, a \$3.5 million investment that should be open next fall, Mr. Speaker. That's what we're undertaking, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Mr. Speaker, there are a number of



recommendations from the minister's own task force that she has not yet implemented, including measures to increase the supply of affordable rental housing. The minister hints that some of the government's infrastructure money may be used for housing, but then she fails to act. Meanwhile, it's been more than a year, more than a year since any new money has been allocated to build affordable housing.

To the minister: why is the Sask Party missing so many opportunities to act on affordable housing?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[14:00]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, I have said it in the House before and I will say it again — because the member opposite cannot remember from one day to the next what has been said — there are 935 units that are in various stages of development since November 2007. Some of them are student housing, Mr. Speaker. We announced student housing. He obviously missed that press release, Mr. Speaker.

But what is his record? He said that he will just stand by his record. Well his record did nothing about shelter rates, which helps the most vulnerable within our society. We acted on the task force immediately. We increased the shelter rates. We indexed their shelter rates. We increased the rental supplement and we indexed it as well. And, Mr. Speaker, we'll continue to help those that are most vulnerable in our society, unlike the member opposite who sat at the cabinet table and for 13 years they increased shelter rates by \$5.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Coronation Park.

#### Proposed Sale of Crown Subsidiary

**Mr. Trew:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Minister Responsible for CIC [Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan] has said that his plan to hold a fire sale of Crown assets is not based on ideology. He says the government will only sell off those investments that are not directly benefiting the people of Saskatchewan. But in his recent news release the minister says he's looking at selling off DirectWest, the Saskatchewan phone book company.

Mr. Speaker, to the minister: how does the Sask Party selling DirectWest meet any criteria that is not driven simply by blind ideology?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, as I have had the chance to articulate in this House before, the Sask-first policy is

one that's well regarded across Saskatchewan, highlighted by the investment by this government into SaskTel of some \$90 million for a \$130 million program. We didn't hear from the opposition if that was a good program or a bad program. They seemed to agree with it but, Mr. Speaker, it is possible because we are getting out of money-losing ventures outside of Canada and putting that money to work here in Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Regina Coronation Park.

**Mr. Trew:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, DirectWest employs about 120 people in Saskatchewan. Their head office is located right here in Regina. The phone books are developed and printed in Saskatchewan. The company sponsors more than 75 community groups throughout the province. Mr. Speaker, every aspect of DirectWest is about making life better for Saskatchewan people.

So again to the minister: how does this company that employs people directly and indirectly, supports the economy of Saskatchewan, how does that meet any criteria that isn't simply naked ideological?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister for Crown Corporations.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, we've been clear with the people of Saskatchewan. Money-losing ventures that are operated under the Crown corporations will be no more. DirectWest Canada and its operation have not contributed to the well-being of the overall Crown corporation.

And as far as naked ideology goes, Mr. Speaker, there is no greater threat to any Crown corporation, to the people of Saskatchewan or their financial well-being, than the Bloc-Liberal-NDP coalition that is threatening our country today, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Regina Coronation Park.

**Mr. Trew:** — Bizarre, Mr. Speaker. DirectWest has been publishing phone books in Saskatchewan for more than 50 . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. I recognize the member for Regina Coronation Park.

**Mr. Trew:** — Mr. Speaker, DirectWest has 50 years of local investment. And according to the minister's SaskTel latest annual report, on page 47, just to help the minister, "The most significant contributor to the increase in other revenues was DirectWest . . ." So much for money-losing ventures, Mr. Speaker. This is one of the most profitable subsidiaries of SaskTel — one of the most profitable, Mr. Speaker — and has a long history of being so.

To the minister: why is he selling off a profitable company that employs hundreds of people in the province of Saskatchewan and has a record of more than 50 years of doing so?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, unlike members opposite, this government has listened to what Saskatchewan people wanted. They wanted enhanced cellular coverage across Saskatchewan. They wanted enhanced high-speed Internet across this province, so every resident, whether rural or urban — we know what they thought of rural Saskatchewan — where every resident in urban or rural Saskatchewan has the same opportunity to start their small business, to have the education that they want. That's our commitment, to do it here in Saskatchewan. We will use the resources of SaskTel and this government to ensure that that happens, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Regina Coronation Park.

**Mr. Trew:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The business community simply rejects the arguments that this minister is making. And I want to quote from *The StarPhoenix* editorial dated October 30. And I quote, quote:

What Mr. Cheveldayoff ordered this week seemed more like ordering Crown executives to employ meat tenderizer mallets on the companies until they are soft enough to be sold . . .

Is the minister telling us these business commentators have got it all wrong? Or is he going to reverse his blind ideological drive to sell off our Crowns?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, it's very clear the opposition has not got any traction on any issues in this whole entire session. They're going back to questions that they asked at the very beginning of the session.

Just to remind you of those questions and the responses from the members opposite. The former premier and the critic had talked about, oh there's nothing new in the Saskatchewan-first policy. We're just doing what we already said we would do back in 2005. Well they had one sleep, Mr. Speaker, and what did they do? They decided that they're against the Saskatchewan-first . . .

**The Speaker:** — Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, they had one sleep to think about it, and then they decided that they're against the

Saskatchewan-first policy.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we've had a chance to implement the results of that Sask-first policy by the \$130 million commitment that we put towards SaskTel. We've heard resounding results of that from people across Saskatchewan. It's the best announcement that they've heard from a Crown corporation in a long, long time, Mr. Speaker.

I remember to the time, Mr. Speaker, when the member from Saskatoon Nutana had a sign that she went up and said, don't sell our Crowns. Well today she should have a different sign: don't sell our country.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Dewdney.

### Professional Public Service

**Mr. Yates:** — Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party election platform pledged to ensure, quote “. . . [that] promotion in the public service is based on merit, not patronage.” And the Premier made statements to the effect, on August 2007, while he was still leader of the opposition, telling the *Leader-Post* that any changes to the civil service would “. . . be based on merit, not patronage or partisan politics.”

These are fine words, Mr. Speaker, but the Minister of Agriculture has suggested that promises made in opposition are not always honoured in government. So to the Minister of the Public Service Commission: does the minister still support the principle of a professional, non-partisan public service?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Highways and Transportation.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, that is a very interesting question. It's a very interesting question coming from a group of men and women who sought to let go literally hundreds of people without cause during the tenure of their government.

The question really is, did they believe in a professional public service and, if so, why did they treat their public employees in that way?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Dewdney.

**Mr. Yates:** — Mr. Speaker, within weeks of the election they dismissed more than 70 public servants. The Deputy Premier justified the firings by claiming quote “. . . all those dismissed — even those without identifiable political connections — did not fit with the direction and philosophy of the new government.”

A few weeks ago, we revealed the Sask Party has already spent more than \$4 million of taxpayers' money for civil servants

they fired, and will likely spend millions more. To the minister: if the Sask Party believe in a professional public service, why have they dismissed long-time public servants without cause and at great expense to the public?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for the Provincial Secretary, Highways and Infrastructure.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, the principle of a professional public service is one not only that we subscribe to, but which we are supporting financially. This government promised to commit \$250,000 a year over four years to the Shoyama-Johnson school of public policy. We are following through on that to help develop young people who are going to come in to the public service in this province and possibly in provinces elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, we have also talked very diligently and directly to the public service about training opportunities and how we want to improve those opportunities for members of the public service across the piece. We have already undertaken some very specific examples of where those opportunities might be obtained outside of the school of public policy.

But, Mr. Speaker, what I'm concerned about is the duplicity and hypocrisy associated with this question. This is coming from a group of men and women who in the years 1992 to 2006 actually let go without cause 645 public servants. Mr. Speaker, that is the rub of this question.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Regina Dewdney.

**Mr. Yates:** — Mr. Speaker, today I am proposing a Bill, the professional public service employees protection Act. The Bill states that every public servant with the exception of those listed may only be terminated for cause. The list of people exempted from the Act's protection includes staff in ministers' offices and Executive Council, and order in council employees hired outside the normal staffing process or at the direction of a minister or the Premier. This Bill provides for clarity that public servants and Saskatchewan people have sought and failed to receive from the Sask Party government.

To the minister: will he support the professional public service employees protection Act, or will he miss an opportunity to give public servants the peace of mind that they deserve?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Provincial Secretary, the Minister Responsible for Highways and Infrastructure.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, thank you. The question, Mr. Speaker, is not so much whether we will respect the public service. The question is, why are they such johnny-come-latelies on this issue? It's really rich for them to present a private member's Bill on the protection of the public service when they were the masters of the fate of 645 public

servants. They were the ones that let go without cause 645 public servants.

Mr. Speaker, let me read into the record, let me read into the record the views of the pretender to the crown over there, Mr. Dwain Lingenfelter:

Cabinet minister Dwain Lingenfelter said the government dismissed Doug Price as president of the Saskatchewan Economic Development Corp., and Leo Larsen as president of STC, in order to replace them with people who better reflect the needs of the government.

Apparently 645 other individuals suffered the same fate.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Provincial Secretary, Minister Responsible for Highways and Infrastructure.

#### Capital Plan for Transportation Infrastructure

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to inform the House that the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure's five-year rolling capital plan was released this morning. This plan shows forward thinking in infrastructure spending and proves this government's commitment to strategic highway investments.

The rural highway strategy, a critical component of our rolling five-year capital plan, will provide the infrastructure needed to sustain our existing economic activity. This further provides new opportunities for growth by systematically assessing all . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. I'll ask members to allow the minister to make his ministerial statement without interference. I recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, the rural highways strategy uses five criteria to determine the order in which projects will receive funding. Those criteria include the specifics of the engineering economics associated with the road. The necessary services the road provides to communities, such as access to health . . .

[14:15]

**The Speaker:** — It would be greatly appreciated if members would at least allow the courtesy for the minister to make his statement and then have the response. I'll recognize the minister.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Mr. Speaker, the rural highway strategy uses five criteria to determine the order in which projects will receive funding. I've already identified a couple of them. But the third one is the safety and comfort of our travelling public, the impact of the highway in ensuring provincial economic growth now and even more importantly in the future; and lastly, the willingness of communities to be our partners in ensuring their highways meet their immediate and long-term needs for safety and reliability. These are the five items that are weighed

by our panel of transportation experts when they established the plan.

As a component of the rolling five-year plan, the rural highway strategy was developed in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities as well as the urban municipalities, the area transportation planning committees, the Saskatchewan Economic Development Association, Saskatchewan Tourism, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise Saskatchewan, and industry representatives.

Now one of the most significant aspects of this five-year capital plan is expanding our ability to move more truck freight more efficiently on more Saskatchewan roadways by expanding the primary weight designation of various highway routes. Mr. Speaker, the primary weight system, as a result of this announcement, will increase by over 5 000 kilometres to a total of now 14 400 kilometres. That, Mr. Speaker, is an increase of 53 per cent in total length.

We had previously announced the first two years of the plan, and today the government's new construction project priorities for the next five years were announced. Today's announcement gives the affected communities a tool that they can use to plan for their own growth. It also provides transparency to industry. They now have critical information that they can use to make important investment decisions. And this announcement is a signal to the Saskatchewan road building and construction industries that they can now plan with confidence their future equipment purchases and staffing requirements.

This announcement of the five-year rolling plan is the fulfilment of this government's 83rd election promise and again signals our commitment to the long-term economic prosperity of Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Before I recognize the member, I think it's unfair for the public when the Minister of Energy and Resources, the Minister of Health, the member from Nutana, and the member from Prince Albert Northcote, after they've been asked to come to order, continue a private dialogue. I would ask members in future to either go behind the bar . . . It's certainly unfair to the members who are speaking. I recognize the member from Regina Northeast.

**Mr. Harper:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to start out by thanking the minister for providing me a copy of his remarks just before entering the House here today.

I think in principle, Mr. Speaker, that the long-term plan for highways construction as announced by the minister is a good plan. It's a good idea. I think it's good for the communities to have an idea what the minister's plans are and priorities are for building. I hope that communities will have the opportunity to influence those plans before they firm up to the point of beyond no return.

I think it's also probably good for the contractors who are looking at making expansions to their equipment and purchasing new equipment and making investments in their

businesses to have an idea that they will have a long-term rolling plan here of work into the future. I think they all realize — I think as well as we realize — that the five-year plan is great; only it is subject to each and every year of funding from the budget through the budgetary process.

So what might be the plan might not be reality. It might be influenced by the ability of the province to live with Finance's plans. It's good when you can bring various groups across the province into play here, whether the SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities] or SUMA [Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association] or transportation planning committees, Saskatchewan Economic Development Association, Sask Tourism. All these people have the province at stake, at heart, and the betterment for the province. And I think when you bring these people together and have them working collaboratively and working in one direction, this is truly a good endeavour.

There are some questions that come about as a result of the minister's announcement with the long-term plan now in place, and will this cause . . . [inaudible] . . . the minister and his department be working with groups out there who may be interested in getting into the construction business? Some new people who may be interested in taking up the occupation of contracting and road building business, will they be working with these people? Will there be more competition at tendering time for these jobs that they tendered out year after year? Will there be an increase in costs of construction? Will this plan simply result in perhaps not more kilometres of road being built, simply more expensive kilometres of road being built?

Those are some of the questions that come to mind. It's interesting, in quickly glancing through the details that the minister released with his announcement, particularly when it comes to the northern transportation strategy. Looking at the plan for the next five years for northern Saskatchewan, we see no mention, no mention of Highway No. 123. That's the highway to Cumberland. We see no mention of that in spite of the fact that my colleague has raised this particular issue and this particular issue of this highway with the minister in this House.

Petitions have been tabled in this House in regards to work to be done on Highway 123. It's a dangerous road. That's been proven with the number of rollovers, the number of injuries, the number of accidents that have resulted in deaths on that road over the years. In spite of the fact that local leaders have been calling for work to be done on this road, the minister has not included it anywhere in the five-year plan. And in some ways, Mr. Speaker, I think this road could be considered a resource road because at the end of this road is the community of Cumberland where there are people, and people are the greatest resource of this province.

Highway No. 10 is not mentioned anywhere in the five-year plan either particularly the stretch from the junction of No. 1 to Fort Qu'Appelle. It's a high-traffic count on this particular stretch of highway. In fact the traffic count on this particular stretch of highway is equal to any of the traffic counts on the highways in Saskatchewan that's being twinned as we speak. It's high tourism traffic on this particular stretch of road, and it's also the main artery for agricultural commodities,

agriculturally produced commodities to be transported to three major inland grain terminals. Yet it's not mentioned anywhere in the five-year plan.

Highway No. 7 from Rosetown to the Alberta border, if you've ever had the opportunity to travel that road, you'll know that there's a lot of heavy truck traffic on that road, and quite frankly one has to be on his toes driving that road because it's a scary stretch.

In principle, Mr. Speaker, the five-year rollout plan is a good idea. Unfortunately this particular plan is flawed. It has holes in it that the minister has not been able to address, and I'm hoping that over the next five years the minister will recognize the error of his ways, the inadequacies of this plan, and address them. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

#### **Bill No. 78 — *The Victoria Park Capital Inc. (Investment Management Agreement) Act***

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation.

**Hon. Mr. Stewart:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 78, *The Victoria Park Capital Inc. (Investment Management Agreement) Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister Responsible for Enterprise and Innovation has moved that Bill No. 78, *The Victoria Park Capital Inc. (Investment Management Agreement) Act* be now read the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the Bill be read a second time?

**Hon. Mr. Stewart:** — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of the Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

#### **Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Mr. Duncan:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 58, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies has moved that Bill No. 58, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment. When

shall the Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 58, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister may proceed to move third reading.

### THIRD READINGS

#### **Bill No. 58 — *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)***

**Hon. Mr. Gantefoer:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that this Bill now be read a third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 58, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)* without amendment be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Speaker:** — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of committees.

#### **Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Mr. Duncan:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 48, *The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantefoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 48, *The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2008* without

amendment and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister may proceed to move third reading.

### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 48 — *The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2008*

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 48, *The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2008* without amendment be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Speaker:** — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed. Carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

### TABLING OF REPORTS

**The Speaker:** — Before orders of the day, I lay on the Table the annual report of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the answer to questions numbered 159 through 167.

**The Speaker:** — Questions 159 through 167 tabled. I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Weekes:** — Answers to questions 168 through 173 are ordered.

**The Speaker:** — Questions 168 through 173 are ordered. I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Weekes:** — I wish to table the answers to questions numbered 174 through 182.

**The Speaker:** — Questions 174 through 182 tabled.

**Clerk:** — Committee of Finance.

**The Speaker:** — I do now leave the Chair.

### COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

#### Motions For Supply

**The Chair:** — The motion before the committee is dealing with supplementary estimates and the resolutions. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move resolution no. 1:

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, 2009, the sum of \$529,624,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

**The Chair:** — Before the committee is no. 1:

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, 2009, the sum of \$529,624,000 be granted out of the general revenue.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? All in favour?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

[14:30]

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Resolution no. 2:

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, 2009, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010, the sum of \$4,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

**The Chair:** — Question before the Assembly is no. 2:

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, 2009, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2010, the sum of \$4,000,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Chair:** — Are all those in favour?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I move that the committee rise and that the Chair report that the committee has agreed to certain resolutions and ask for leave to sit again.

**The Chair:** — Minister of Finance has moved that this committee now rise and report progress.

Is that the pleasure of the Assembly?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

### FIRST AND SECOND READING OF RESOLUTIONS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of committees.

**Mr. Brkich:** — Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Finance has agreed to certain resolutions, has instructed me to report the same, and to ask for leave to sit again.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the resolutions be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that the resolutions be now read the first and second time.

**The Speaker:** — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Clerk:** — First and second reading of the resolutions.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the committee sit again? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Later this day, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Later this day.

### APPROPRIATION BILL

#### Bill No. 77 — *The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 4)*

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. By leave of the Assembly, I move that Bill No. 77, *The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 4)* be now introduced and read the first time.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has moved that Bill No. 77, *The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 4)* be now introduced and read the first time. Is leave of the Assembly granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the

motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed. Carried.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Mr. Speaker, by leave of the Assembly, and under Rule 72(2), I move that the Bill be now read a second and third time.

**The Speaker:** — Is leave of the Assembly granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed. Moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 77, *The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 4)* be now read a second and third time.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Speaker:** — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed. Carried.

**Clerk:** — Second and third reading of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — I just want to remind the Assembly that His Honour is here for Royal Assent.

### ROYAL ASSENT

[At 14:36 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the throne, and gave Royal Assent to the following Bills.]

**His Honour:** — Please be seated.

**The Speaker:** — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly in its present session has passed several Bills which in the name of the Assembly I present to Your Honour and to which Bills I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**Clerk:** — Your Honour, the Bills are as follows:

Bill No. 602 - *The National Peacekeepers Recognition Day Act*

Bill No. 53 - *The Medical Profession Amendment Act, 2008*

Bill No. 42 - *The Securities Amendment Act, 2008*

Bill No. 62 - *The Residential Tenancies Amendment Act, 2008*

Bill No. 64 - *The Northern Municipalities Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)*

Bill No. 58 - *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008*  
(No. 2)

Bill No. 48 - *The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2008*

**His Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I assent to these Bills.

**The Speaker:** — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly has voted the supplies required to enable the government to defray the expenses of the public service.

In the name of the Assembly I present to Your Honour:

Bill No. 77 - *The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 4)*

to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**His Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I thank the Legislative Assembly, accept their benevolence, and assent to this Bill.

[His Honour retired from the Chamber at 14:38.]

**The Speaker:** — Please be seated. I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this House do now adjourn.

**The Speaker:** — The Government House Leader has moved that this House do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:39.]





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