



THIRD SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

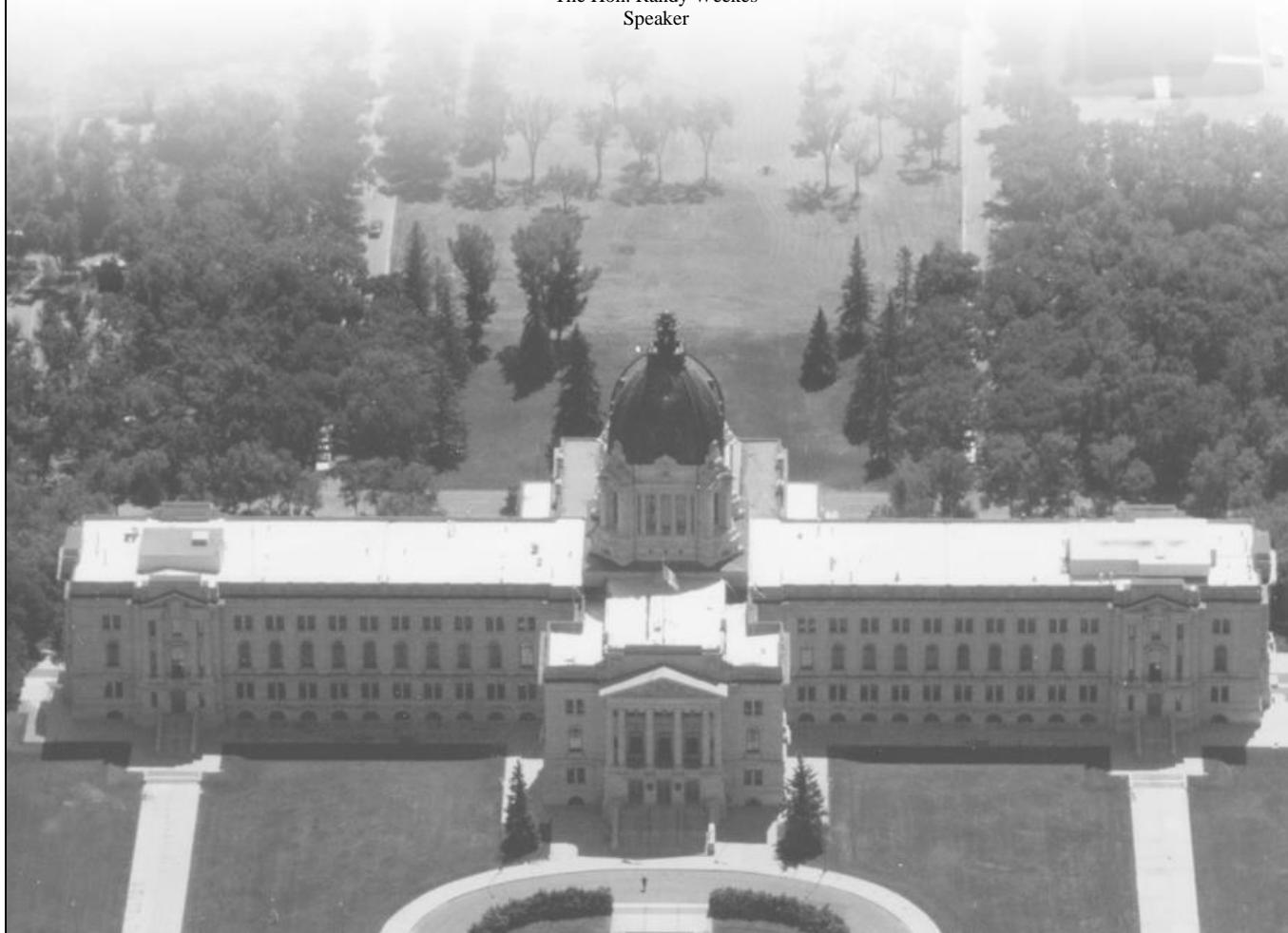
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**DEBATES  
AND  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(HANSARD)

Published under the  
authority of  
The Hon. Randy Weekes  
Speaker



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**3rd Session — 29th Legislature**

**Lieutenant Governor** — His Honour the Honourable Russ Mirasty, S.O.M., M.S.M.

**Speaker** — Hon. Randy Weekes

**Premier** — Hon. Scott Moe

**Leader of the Opposition** — Carla Beck

**Beck**, Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP)

**Bonk**, Steven — Moosomin (SP)

**Bowes**, Jennifer — Saskatoon University (NDP)

**Bradshaw**, Fred — Carrot River Valley (SP)

**Buckingham**, David — Saskatoon Westview (SP)

**Burki**, Noor — Regina Coronation Park (NDP)

**Carr**, Hon. Lori — Estevan (SP)

**Cheveldayoff**, Ken — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)

**Clarke**, Jared — Regina Walsh Acres (NDP)

**Cockrill**, Hon. Jeremy — The Battlefords (SP)

**Conway**, Meara — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP)

**Dennis**, Terry — Canora-Pelly (SP)

**Domotor**, Ryan — Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP)

**Duncan**, Hon. Dustin — Weyburn-Big Muddy (SP)

**Eyre**, Hon. Bronwyn — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP)

**Fiaz**, Muhammad — Regina Pasqua (SP)

**Francis**, Ken — Kindersley (SP)

**Friesen**, Marv — Saskatoon Riversdale (SP)

**Goudy**, Todd — Melfort (SP)

**Grewal**, Gary — Regina Northeast (SP)

**Hargrave**, Hon. Joe — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)

**Harpauer**, Hon. Donna — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)

**Harrison**, Daryl — Cannington (SP)

**Harrison**, Hon. Jeremy — Meadow Lake (SP)

**Hindley**, Hon. Everett — Swift Current (SP)

**Jenson**, Terry — Martensville-Warman (SP)

**Kaeding**, Warren — Melville-Saltcoats (SP)

**Keisig**, Travis — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)

**Kirsch**, Delbert — Batoche (SP)

**Lambert**, Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)

**Lawrence**, Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)

**Lemaigre**, Jim — Athabasca (SP)

**Love**, Matt — Saskatoon Eastview (NDP)

**Makowsky**, Hon. Gene — Regina Gardiner Park (SP)

**Marit**, Hon. David — Wood River (SP)

**McLeod**, Blaine — Lumsden-Morse (SP)

**McLeod**, Hon. Tim — Moose Jaw North (SP)

**McMorris**, Hon. Don — Indian Head-Milestone (SP)

**Merriman**, Hon. Paul — Saskatoon Silverspring-Sutherland (SP)

**Moe**, Hon. Scott — Rosthern-Shellbrook (SP)

**Morgan**, Hon. Don — Saskatoon Southeast (SP)

**Mowat**, Vicki — Saskatoon Fairview (NDP)

**Nerlien**, Hugh — Kelvington-Wadena (SP)

**Nippi-Albright**, Betty — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)

**Ottenbreit**, Greg — Yorkton (SP)

**Reiter**, Hon. Jim — Rosetown-Elrose (SP)

**Ritchie**, Erika — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP)

**Ross**, Alana — Prince Albert Northcote (SP)

**Ross**, Hon. Laura — Regina Rochdale (SP)

**Sarauer**, Nicole — Regina Douglas Park (NDP)

**Skoropad**, Dana — Arm River (SP)

**Steele**, Doug — Cypress Hills (SP)

**Teed**, Nathaniel — Saskatoon Meewasin (NDP)

**Tell**, Hon. Christine — Regina Wascana Plains (SP)

**Vermette**, Doyle — Cumberland (NDP)

**Weekes**, Hon. Randy — Biggar-Sask Valley (SP)

**Wilson**, Nadine — Saskatchewan Rivers (Ind.)

**Wotherspoon**, Trent — Regina Rosemont (NDP)

**Wyant**, Hon. Gordon — Saskatoon Northwest (SP)

**Young**, Aleana — Regina University (NDP)

**Young**, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

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**Standings**

Government Caucus: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 46; Opposition Caucus: New Democratic Party (NDP) — 14;  
Independent: Saskatchewan United Party (Ind.) — 1

**Clerks-at-the-Table**

**Clerk** — Iris Lang

**Law Clerk & Parliamentary Counsel** — Kenneth S. Ring, K.C.

**Deputy Clerk** — Kathy Burianyk

**Principal Clerk** — Robert Park

**Sergeant-at-Arms** — Lyall Frederiksen

**Hansard on the internet**

*Hansard* and other documents of the Legislative Assembly are available within hours after each sitting.

<https://www.legassembly.sk.ca/Calendar>

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### PROROGATION

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[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

**The Speaker:** — I am advised that His Honour is here for prorogation. Please rise for the entrance of His Honour.

[At 10:03 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Honour then delivered the following speech.]

### PROROGATION

**His Honour:** — Pray be seated.

Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislative Assembly, people of Saskatchewan.

The Speech from the Throne that opened the Third Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature presented my government's plan to ensure continued growth in Saskatchewan and that everyone in the province benefits from that growth.

During the Third Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature my government presented a balanced budget that focused on more people, more jobs, and more opportunities.

Saskatchewan's 2023-24 Budget highlights a strong economy that allowed for record investments in health, education, social services and affordability measures, including paying down operating debt. Investments such as:

- Record \$7.1 billion in overall health funding; including \$98.8 million for the Health and Human Resources Action Plan and a \$42.5 million increase to fund the largest volume of surgical procedures in the history of Saskatchewan;
- More than \$4 billion in overall education spending, including a record \$2 billion in school operating funding;
- Record investment of \$3.7 billion for capital for highways, hospitals, schools and other important projects to support a growing province;
- Funding to create Saskatchewan's new Distance Learning Corporation;
- Record \$1.4 billion for the Ministry of Social Services;
- Additional benefits funding to support people with low incomes, families and seniors;
- Increased funding for mental health and addictions services programs;
- New operational funding for second stage housing;
- Funding for increased interpersonal violence supports and services;
- Investments in new police and law enforcement initiatives;
- Record level of Municipal Revenue Sharing.

Furthermore, various pieces of legislation were implemented, including:

- *The Saskatchewan First Act*, to clearly define and defend Saskatchewan's exclusive jurisdiction over natural

resources and its economic future;

- Amending the province's Constitution by amending *The Saskatchewan Act* to state that Saskatchewan continues to retain exclusive jurisdiction over its own natural resources;
- *The Saskatchewan Firearms Act*, to enhance public safety and protect the rights of legal firearms owners;
- Changes to *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act*, to provide municipalities with the authority to designate outdoor public places for consumption of alcoholic beverages and to allow golf carts on public roads;
- Legislation to increase the Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration Tax Credit from 10 per cent to 30 per cent, making exploration incentives in the province among the most competitive in Canada;
- Amending *The Medical Profession Amendment Act* to introduce a new category of health care profession to add to the workforce; and
- Passing *The Education (Parents' Bill of Rights) Amendment Act*, to ensure Saskatchewan's parents are involved in important decisions about their children's education.

Saskatchewan's economy led the country in growth in 2022 and is expected to continue leading growth into the future, according to private sector forecasts.

My government is building on this momentum to continue strengthening our province by creating opportunities and providing support to those who need it most, including:

- Increasing the Saskatchewan Income Supports by 6% on average;
- Increasing living income under SAID by 6% on average;
- Increasing the monthly personal care home benefits by 20%;
- Increasing Seniors' Income Plan benefit by 9%;
- 3% increase for community-based organizations;
- Introducing a new Action Plan for Mental Health and Addictions that will invest \$49.9 million over 5 years to create 500 new addictions treatment spaces and transition to a more accessible and responsive system of care; and
- Introducing the Provincial Approach to Homelessness strategy which invests \$40.2 million in new funding over two years to create 155 new supportive housing spaces, 120 new permanent emergency shelter spaces, and 30 new complex needs emergency shelter spaces.

When taxes, utilities, and housing costs are combined, Saskatchewan is the most affordable place to live in the country. In continued efforts to keep life affordable for Saskatchewan people, during this session, my government has:

- Increased the minimum wage to \$14 an hour, and by 19% in the last two years;
- Implemented \$10 per day child care;
- Provided every resident over 18 in Saskatchewan with a \$500 affordability cheque; and
- Released the provincial plan to protect Saskatchewan's right to affordable, reliable power production to 2035 and beyond.

Saskatchewan's population is at an all-time high of over 1.2 million and growing at its fastest pace in more than a century.

Over this session my government has continued taking significant steps to ensure Saskatchewan families and growing communities across the province are safe, including:

- Adding eight new officers to the Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Team in Prince Albert;
- Adding a new Crime Reduction Team in North Battleford;
- Increased funding for the newly-established Serious Incident Response Team;
- Creating the Warrant Intelligence Team to share information with law enforcement to assist in the apprehension and removal of prolific violent offenders from provincial social funding;
- Hiring additional Police and Crisis Team personnel within Saskatoon and Regina;
- Enhancing the Internet Child Exploitation Unit; and
- The creation of the Saskatchewan Marshals Service to work with the RCMP and other police services to enhance law enforcement throughout the province.

These significant investments and initiatives represent my government's commitment to continue building and protecting a strong, safe and prosperous Saskatchewan.

These are just some of the many highlights of the past legislative session.

Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my duty to discharge you from further attendance of the Third Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature.

In relieving you of your duties, I wish to thank all members of the assembly for your hard work and commitment to your duties in this chamber, to this province, and to your constituents.

**Hon. Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly, it is the will and pleasure of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until later today, the 25th day of October 2023 at 2 p.m. This Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

[At 10:10 His Honour retired from the Chamber.]



# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

## CABINET MINISTERS

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**Hon. Scott Moe**  
**Premier**  
**President of the Executive Council**  
**Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs**

**Hon. Lori Carr**  
Minister of Highways

**Hon. Gene Makowsky**  
Minister of Social Services

**Hon. Jeremy Cockrill**  
Minister of Education

**Hon. David Marit**  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Water Security Agency

**Hon. Dustin Duncan**  
Minister of Crown Investments Corporation  
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission  
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Government Insurance  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Power Corporation  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Telecommunications  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Water Corporation  
Minister Responsible for  
Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority

**Hon. Tim McLeod**  
Minister of Mental Health and Addictions,  
Seniors and Rural and Remote Health

**Hon. Bronwyn Eyre**  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

**Hon. Don McMorris**  
Minister of Government Relations  
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety  
Minister Responsible for  
First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs  
Minister Responsible for the  
Provincial Capital Commission  
Minister Responsible for the  
Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board

**Hon. Joe Hargrave**  
Minister of SaskBuilds and Procurement  
Minister Responsible for the  
Global Transportation Hub Authority

**Hon. Paul Merriman**  
Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety  
Minister Responsible for the Firearms Secretariat

**Hon. Donna Harpauer**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister of Finance

**Hon. Jim Reiter**  
Minister of Energy and Resources

**Hon. Jeremy Harrison**  
Minister of Trade and Export Development  
Minister of Immigration and Career Training  
Minister Responsible for Innovation  
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan

**Hon. Laura Ross**  
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport  
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women  
Minister Responsible for  
Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan Corporation

**Hon. Everett Hindley**  
Minister of Health

**Hon. Christine Tell**  
Minister of Environment

**Hon. Gordon Wyant**  
Minister of Advanced Education