



FIRST SESSION — THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

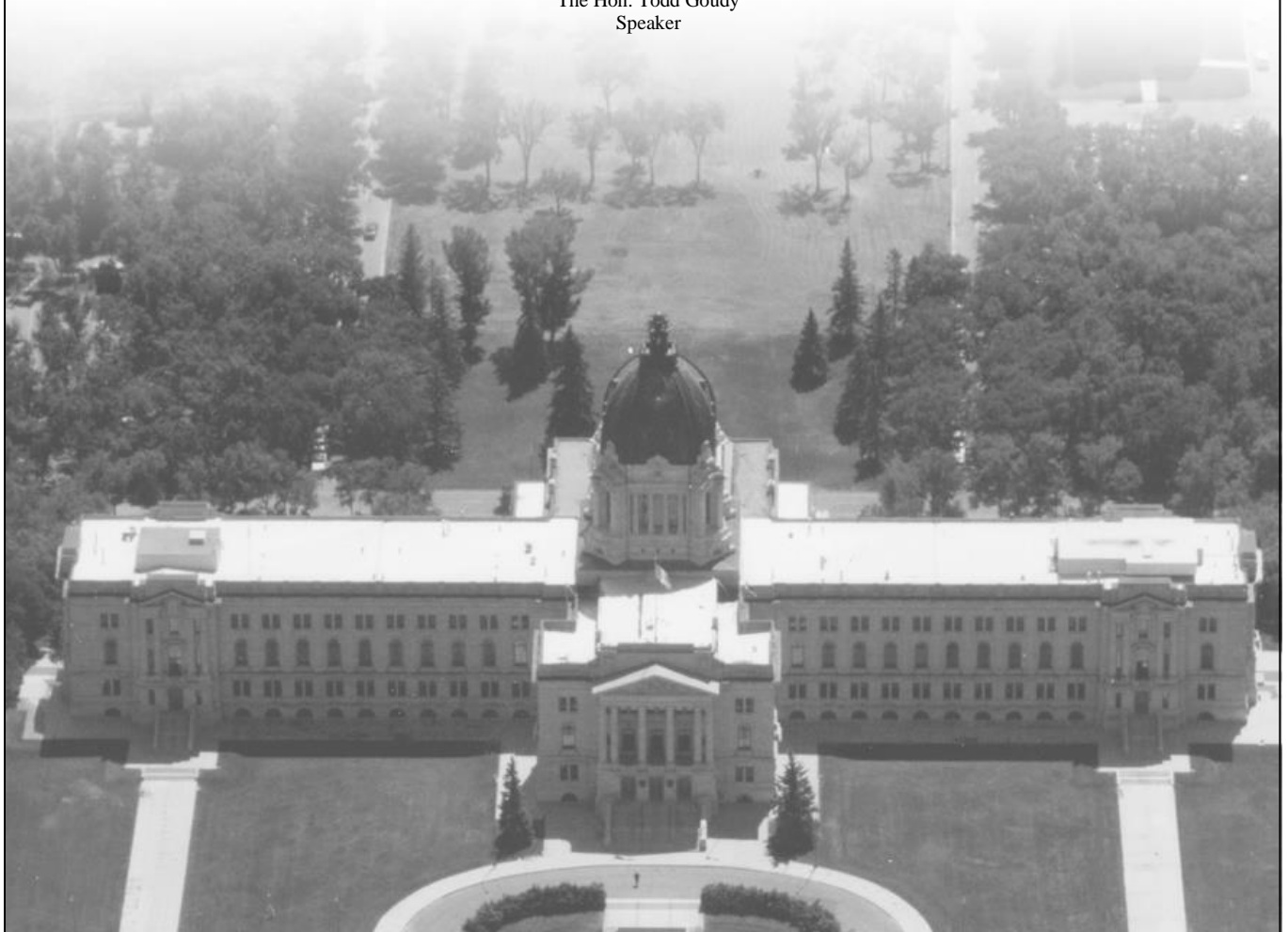
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of
The Hon. Todd Goudy
Speaker



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
1st Session — 30th Legislature

Lieutenant Governor — Her Honour the Honourable Bernadette McIntyre, S.O.M.

Speaker — Hon. Todd Goudy
Premier — Hon. Scott Moe
Leader of the Opposition — Carla Beck

Beaudry, Chris — Kelvington-Wadena (SP)
Beck, Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP)
Blakley, Brent — Regina Wascana Plains (NDP)
Brar, Bhajan — Regina Pasqua (NDP)
Breckner, Kim — Saskatoon Riversdale (NDP)
Bromm, Terri — Carrot River Valley (SP)
Burki, Noor — Regina Coronation Park (NDP)
Carr, Hon. Lori — Estevan-Big Muddy (SP)
Chan, David — Yorkton (SP)
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)
ChiefCalf, April — Saskatoon Westview (NDP)
Clarke, Jared — Regina Walsh Acres (NDP)
Cockrill, Hon. Jeremy — The Battlefords (SP)
Conway, Meara — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP)
Crassweller, Brad — White City-Qu'Appelle (SP)
Gartner, Kim — Kindersley-Biggar (SP)
Gordon, Hugh — Saskatoon Silverspring (NDP)
Goudy, Hon. Todd — Melfort (SP)
Grewal, Tajinder — Saskatoon University-Sutherland (NDP)
Harrison, Hon. Daryl — Cannington (SP)
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy — Meadow Lake (SP)
Hilbert, Racquel — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)
Hindley, Hon. Everett — Swift Current (SP)
Housser, Sally — Regina University (NDP)
Jenson, Hon. Terry — Warman (SP)
Jorgenson, Keith — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (NDP)
Kaeding, Hon. Warren — Melville-Saltcoats (SP)
Kasun, Kevin — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)
Keisig, Hon. Travis — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)
Kropf, Barret — Dakota-Arm River (SP)
Laliberte, Leroy — Athabasca (NDP)

Love, Matt — Saskatoon Eastview (NDP)
Marit, Hon. David — Wood River (SP)
Martens, Hon. Jamie — Martensville-Blairmore (SP)
McBean, Don — Saskatoon Chief Mistawasis (NDP)
McLeod, Blaine — Lumsden-Morse (SP)
McLeod, Hon. Tim — Moose Jaw North (SP)
McPhail, Jordan — Cumberland (NDP)
Moe, Hon. Scott — Rosthern-Shellbrook (SP)
Mowat, Vicki — Saskatoon Fairview (NDP)
Nippi-Albright, Betty — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)
Patterson, Megan — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)
Pratchler, Joan — Regina Rochdale (NDP)
Reiter, Hon. Jim — Rosetown-Delisle (SP)
Ritchie, Erika — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP)
Ross, Hon. Alana — Prince Albert Northcote (SP)
Rowden, Darlene — Batoche (SP)
Roy, Jacqueline — Regina Northeast (NDP)
Sarauer, Nicole — Regina Douglas Park (NDP)
Schmalz, Hon. Eric — Saskatchewan Rivers (SP)
Senger, Brittney — Saskatoon Southeast (NDP)
Steele, Doug — Cypress Hills (SP)
Teed, Nathaniel — Saskatoon Meewasin (NDP)
Thorsteinson, James — Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP)
Warrington, Darcy — Saskatoon Stonebridge (NDP)
Weedmark, Kevin — Moosomin-Montmartre (SP)
Weger, Michael — Weyburn-Bengough (SP)
Wilson, Sean — Canora-Pelly (SP)
Wotherspoon, Trent — Regina Mount Royal (NDP)
Young, Aleana — Regina South Albert (NDP)
Young, Hon. Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

Standings

Government Caucus: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 34; Opposition Caucus: New Democratic Party (NDP) — 27

Clerks-at-the-Table

Clerk — Iris Lang
Deputy Clerk — Kathy Burianyk
Principal Clerk — Robert Park
Clerk Assistant — Danielle Humble-Selinger

Sergeant-at-Arms — Lyall Frederiksen

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

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

CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Kaeding.....	965
Young, A.....	965
Martens.....	965
Cockrill.....	966
Mowat.....	966
Nippi-Albright.....	966
Young, C.....	966
Grewal.....	966
McLeod, T.....	967
Sarauer.....	967
Bromm.....	967
Brar.....	968
Carr.....	968
Laliberte.....	968
Ross.....	968
Warrington.....	968
Keisig.....	969
Love.....	969
Kropf.....	969
Roy.....	970
McPhail.....	970
Patterson.....	970
Pratchler.....	970
Beaudry.....	971
Beck.....	971
Cheveldayoff.....	971
Weger.....	972
Senger.....	972
Speaker Goudy.....	972

PRESENTING PETITIONS

McPhail.....	972
Love.....	973
Nippi-Albright.....	973

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

National Nursing Week Recognizes the Impact of Nurses on Health Care	
Pratchler.....	973
Disability Service Professionals Help Build Inclusive Communities	
Hilbert.....	973
Remembering Jordan Belly	
Nippi-Albright.....	974
Small Business Showcases Capabilities of People with Disabilities	
Wilson.....	974
Saskatoon Football Coaches Receive National Recognition	
Love.....	974
Health Human Resources Action Plan Results in Increased Staffing of Nurses	
Bromm.....	974
Provincial Job Creation Numbers	
Kasun.....	975

QUESTION PERIOD

National Unity and Economic Stability	
Beck.....	975
Moe.....	975
National Unity and Referendum Legislation	
Beck.....	976
Moe.....	976
Selection of Location for Costco Store	
Clarke.....	976
Marit.....	976
Gordon.....	976
Water Levels in South Saskatchewan River	
Warrington.....	977
Harrison, D.....	977

Health Care Staffing and Access to Care	
Conway	978
Cockrill	978
Changes to Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program	
Burki	979
Reiter	979
MOTIONS	
Second Reading of Bill No. 604	
Sarauer	979
ORDERS OF THE DAY	
GOVERNMENT ORDERS	
COMMITTEE OF FINANCE	
Motions for Supply	
Reiter	980
FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS	
Reiter	980
APPROPRIATION BILL	
Bill No. 23 — <i>The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)</i>	
Reiter	980
Recorded Division (adjournment motion)	981

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Trade and Export.

Hon. Warren Kaeding: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Request leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The minister has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Hon. Warren Kaeding: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you, I would like to introduce a number of guests seated in your gallery today: His Excellency Wang Di, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Canada; Mr. Li Zhongzhou, minister-counsellor for political affairs, Embassy of China to Canada; Ms. Zhao Liying, consul general, Consulate General of China in Calgary; Mr. Hou Shen, consul and director of the consular section, Consulate General of China in Calgary; Mr. Xiong Chaoqiang, third secretary, Embassy of China to Canada; and Mr. Peng Jialun, attaché, the Embassy of China to Canada.

I was pleased to meet with this delegation earlier today along with the Premier to discuss the very important relationship that our jurisdictions share. They have had a full morning engaging with various ministers and community representatives including leadership from the University of Regina.

Saskatchewan has the food and energy ingredients that a growing world needs, and I know that they will get to see the many highlights that our province has to offer over the next couple of days.

In 2024 China remained Saskatchewan's second-largest export destination with \$4.4 billion worth of goods exported last year, an increase of 13.6 per cent over the last five years. This makes Saskatchewan the third-largest Canadian exporting province to China. Saskatchewan's top exports include canola seed, canola meal, potash, non-durum wheat, barley, wood pulp, peas, and soybeans.

We've had very productive conversations this morning as well as over the past several months with Chinese representatives on a number of fronts including trade, education, immigration, and much more. In his recent conversation with Prime Minister Carney, the Premier has raised many of these same topics as we continue to urge the federal government to engage directly with the Chinese government to find common ground on the issue of tariffs. We hope to see this work continue once a new federal cabinet is announced tomorrow.

Saskatchewan and Canada as a whole look to strengthen ties abroad. We look forward to continued collaboration between Saskatchewan and China now and well into the future.

This is the ambassador's first official visit to Saskatchewan, so I'd ask all members to help me welcome him and welcome all these representatives to this legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina South Albert.

Aleana Young: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, it's my pleasure to join in with the minister opposite and welcome His Excellency Wang Di and all of your guests and colleagues here to Saskatchewan's legislature.

I want to thank you for the hospitality that was shown to the Leader of the Opposition last week when she had the opportunity to meet with the consul general in Calgary. Again thank you for that hospitality. And there's nothing I can say that the minister hasn't already well canvassed, but on this, your first visit to Saskatchewan, please enjoy everything this beautiful province has to offer and thank you for being here with us today. On behalf of the official opposition, please join me in welcoming these folks to the legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Jamie Martens: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask for an extended introduction, leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Hon. Jamie Martens: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to introduce János Jákó — I hope I said that right — the consul general of Hungary in Toronto. He has served in his role since May, my birthday, of last year, which is something interesting. He has met with many ministers today, as well as myself this morning with the Speaker himself.

The majority of Saskatchewan exports to Hungary are agricultural products including lentils, chickpeas, and dried peas. And with Saskatchewan having 40 per cent of Canadian's cultivated farm land, we are positioned to produce safe, high-quality agricultural products and food ingredients for the nations around the world. Saskatchewan has a strong presence in Europe, and when facilitated, through our UK [United Kingdom] and Germany trade and investment offices.

We look forward to building on current relationships and exploring new opportunities between Saskatchewan and Hungary. And I would also like to welcome Mr. Jákó, as well as Candace Bonk, the honorary consul to Hungary here in Saskatchewan. And I would like everyone to welcome them here to their legislature. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina South Albert.

Aleana Young: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm back again to join with the member opposite in welcoming Consul General Jákó to the Saskatchewan legislature, as well as

Honorary Consul Candace Barta-Bonk.

On behalf of the opposition, Ms. Bonk, now that your husband is elsewhere, I think it's safe to say he was our favourite Sask Party member while he was here. But seriously to the consul general and Ms. Bonk for being here in her official capacity, on behalf of the official opposition we would like to welcome you to the Saskatchewan legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to welcome some members in your gallery sitting up in the top row from SEIU-West [Service Employees International Union-West], led by their president, Barb Cape, who is here today. SEIU-West represents LPNs [licensed practical nurse], CCAs [continuing care aide], several other professions in our health care sector right across the province, Mr. Speaker.

Myself and a couple colleagues will have an opportunity to sit down with these fine folks later this afternoon to discuss different issues and figure out how we can continue to work together to serve Saskatchewan people. Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all members of the Assembly to join me in welcoming these SEIU-West members to this their Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Vicki Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join in with the minister opposite in welcoming the members of SEIU-West that have joined in your gallery. You can see them with their purple shirts on, up in the Speaker's gallery, Mr. Speaker.

Today we have Barb Cape, Jason Monteith, Karman Kawchuk, Jessica Perrault. They're joined by a group of continuing care assistants: Deidre Wilson, Darby McComb, Mariann Marcia, Neil Colmin, and Lisa Zunti. I think I got all of them up there. We had a chance to meet with them earlier this morning and hear specifically about their asks for competitive wages and safe staffing, particularly as it relates to long-term care and home care. I would ask all members to join me in welcoming these guests to their Assembly.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join, seated in the east gallery, Marie Lovrod. If you want to give a wave, Marie. Marie has had the opportunity to meet with, I understand, the Minister of Health this morning as well as myself. She's advocating for some system-wide changes in health care to make sure that we're preventing unexpected deaths in the system. I look forward to seeing some productive changes as a result of these meetings, and I want to thank her for her advocacy not only on behalf of her loved ones but on behalf of the whole province and the whole system.

So I would ask all members to join me in welcoming Marie to her legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I neglected to see Marie earlier. She should have been wearing a purple shirt;

I would have recognized her, Mr. Speaker. But I just want to thank Marie. I had an opportunity to sit down with Marie and some of her loved ones this morning, have some discussions about how we can better serve patients and their families to make sure that care is responsive and that we always are working to make things better for the people of this province.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming Marie Lovrod to her Assembly. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

Betty Nippi-Albright: — Request leave for extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is this leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Betty Nippi-Albright: — To you and through you, I'd like to introduce the following guests in the east gallery: the leadership of Onion Lake Cree Nation, the duty-to-consult team, and the Dillon family.

Onion Lake Cree Nation — their leadership has been a force to be reckoned with when it comes to meaningful duty-to-consult in this province as it relates to protecting our inherent and treaty rights. These inherent and treaty rights were here long before the provinces and Canada ever came to be. Onion Lake continues to fight for meaningful duty-to-consult. It is a fiduciary responsibility of all levels of government to do that.

So I would like to ask all members to join me in welcoming these guests to their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Energy and Resources.

Hon. Colleen Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join the member opposite in welcoming the team from Onion Lake and the Dillon family who have joined us here today. I hope you will find this a very interesting session and welcome you to be a part of the conversations that will work to support your community as we move forward in the duty-to-consult. So welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon University-Sutherland.

Tajinder Grewal: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I would like to welcome many international students, former or current international students who came here, sitting in your east gallery. They came to this province and this country for the bright future, but now they're very concerned about their immigration status.

So some are concerned about their work permit is expiring soon, and some of them got a letter last week that their application for permanent residency has been rejected. So they came here to share their concern, their issues with us. So I would ask all members to join me to welcome these students here.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The minister has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On May 11th to 17th is Victims and Survivors of Crime Week here in Saskatchewan. Today I'm honoured to have had the opportunity to help thank more than 55 dedicated staff members, 150 volunteer victim support workers, and 80 community board members who provide support to victims and survivors of crime right across our province.

Mr. Speaker, these volunteers and staff members provide information, advocacy, referrals, and support through their work with police-based victims services programs. Joining us today in your gallery are nine of these individuals who have dedicated 10, 15, 20, 25, and even 30 years of serving their communities, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps they want to give us a wave. They're in the second-from-top row there.

Mr. Speaker, seated in your gallery we have Laura Elash of Estevan, who has volunteered with the Southeast Regional Victim Services for 30 years as a community board member. From Hudson Bay we have three individuals joining us who have each dedicated 25 years serving as volunteer victim support workers with the Northeast Regional Victim Services. So thank you to Brenda Guderyan, Betty Lou Palko, and Vicky Piwtorak for your work.

From Swift Current we have Abbie Houston who is a 25-year community board member with the Southwest victim services. Bonnie Rosteski, from Pinehouse Lake, is a 25-year staff member with the North Saskatchewan Victim Services. Anita McKay, of the Red Earth Cree Nation, is a 20-year volunteer victim support worker with Northeast Regional Victim Services. Dianne Lauritzen of The Battlefords has served as a community board member with the Battlefords Victim Services for 15 years. And Jaime Campbell from Grayson has served as a volunteer victim support worker with Parkland Victim Services for 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, we thank these volunteers for their selfless dedication to helping victims in their time of need and for the work that they do on behalf of our province's justice system.

[13:45]

I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming our police-based victim services volunteers, staff, and community board members to the Saskatchewan legislature and thank them for their service.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Douglas Park.

Nicole Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to join with the minister opposite in thanking and recognizing all of

the staff and volunteers for Victims and Survivors of Crime Week but in particular the nine who are here in our legislature today. Thank you for your decades of service.

We often say in this Chamber that volunteers are the backbone of our communities, and that also goes for our justice system. You work tirelessly to help those experiencing some of the worst days of their lives and the worst experiences that they've had, them and their families. And so on behalf of the official opposition, I want to join with the minister in a heartfelt thank you for your many, many years of service. I ask all members to join me in welcoming them to their legislature once again.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Carrot River Valley.

Terri Bromm: — Mr. Speaker, I would ask for leave for extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Terri Bromm: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it is my pleasure to also welcome the following volunteer victim support workers with the Northeast Regional Victim Services from my constituency, Carrot River Valley.

I would echo with the minister to name Brenda Guderyan from Hudson Bay, Vicky Piwtorak and Betty Lou Palko, both from Hudson Bay, all with 25 years for volunteerism. And as well I'd like to recognize Anita McKay from Red Earth Cree Nation for her 20 years of service as well.

The three ladies from Hudson Bay volunteered to become victim support workers 25 years ago. They were invited to join this fairly new program by local RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] officers.

Betty Lou Palko is currently the mayor of the community and has served on council and as mayor for 25 years. She is a retired educator and often has had the sad task of being there for past students.

Vicky Piwtorak has had to deal with personal loss at a young age. She brings the compassion learned at that time with her to this volunteerism. Vicky is a long-time school bus driver.

Brenda Guderyan also learned about children and how to support them in her role as a bus driver. She is retired and, with the other ladies, supports community volunteerism.

Anita McKay volunteers at Red Earth Cree Nation and Shoal Lake Cree Nation. She was an education assistant at Red Earth Cree Nation for seven years and then employed at Prince Albert Grand Council for 16 years in maternal-child health.

Congratulations to you all and the other recipients on this milestone recognition of your volunteerism, and we thank you for your years of service. I would ask all members to join me to welcome them to this, their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Pasqua.

Bhajan Brar: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce a few Sikh faces sitting in the east gallery. They are part of a group of senior citizens of Regina group. The names of the persons sitting are: Sukhdev Singh Brar, he is a retired lecturer in mathematics; Ranbir Singh Gill, he is a retired teacher; Dr. Nirbhai Singh Dhillon, he was an Ayurvedic doctor; Balbir Singh Mian and Balwinder Singh Kaholon, both are retired from government transportation department; and Kulwant Singh worked in various construction companies.

Mr. Speaker, these individuals every day come to the gurdwara to do their volunteer service. They prepare the food and serve it to the people in need. To you, through you, I would like to request to all the members to join me to welcome them in their Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Remote and Rural Health.

Hon. Lori Carr: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you it is also my pleasure to join the minister in welcoming Laura Elash to her Legislative Assembly. Thirty years is an exceptionally long time to be volunteering for an organization such as the Southeast Regional Victim Services, Mr. Speaker. As members have spoke about in this House, it is not an easy job. You are on the front lines dealing with individuals in their most vulnerable time. So I truly want to extend my thank you to you, and I ask that everybody please help me welcoming Laura Elash to her Assembly.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, it is also my pleasure to welcome a school group in the west gallery, the Gladmar Regional School. If I could get a wave from everybody that's up there. Welcome to your Assembly. We have 30 students. I wondered why it didn't give me a grade, but I can see as I'm looking up there it looks like you're from all grades. And I'm not sure how big Gladmar School is, but that could possibly be the whole school. I'm not really sure. No. Okay.

Anyways it is my pleasure to welcome you here today. I hope you've had a wonderful tour. I look forward to having a visit with you after question period. Hopefully you'll have some interesting questions for me. Maybe pay attention to what's happening in the House, and if you have any questions about the proceedings and what happens and how we behave in the House, then feel free to do that.

But it is my pleasure to welcome these 30 students from Gladmar Regional School along with their teacher, Mr. Chris Abtosway. I believe I'm saying that correct. Welcome. It doesn't give me a list of parent chaperones. I'm assuming we have a few of those in the gallery as well, but we will see you when we come and visit later on. Thank you very much for joining us here today, and please welcome them to their Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Leroy Laliberte: — Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to join my colleague from Saskatoon Centre in welcoming both representation and community members of Onion Lake. And also

to the MacDonald and Dillon family, thank you for being here. And I just ask all members to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Alana Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The minister has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Hon. Alana Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it is my great pleasure to introduce to you five guests seated in your gallery. Joining us today is Team Bryden. So they are in their red sweaters with their gold medals around their neck from their astonishing victory at the World Men's Senior Curling Championship in Fredericton, New Brunswick. And I understand their wives have joined them here today with them as well.

Randy Bryden and his team of third, Troy Robinson; second, Russ Bryden; lead, Chris Semenchuck; and fifth, Glen Hill provided excellent representation for our province on the world stage. I had the great pleasure of meeting with Team Bryden in December when they were first heading off to nationals, so it is very exciting to see them make their way back home with a world championship.

Curling is Saskatchewan's official sport, and this was on full display when Team Bryden finished an undefeated week with a 10-7 final win over Scotland, leading Canada to its sixth world championship win. Congratulations, gentlemen. You have made our province proud. I ask all members to join me in welcoming Randy, Russ, Troy, Chris, and Glen to their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Stonebridge.

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you I join the member opposite in recognizing greatness as we often do here in our Chamber in our province. Your province and country are so proud of you. Defeating Scotland in curling is sort of the equivalent in Canada of beating the USA [United States of America] or Russia in hockey. So that being said, my uncle Alan Coutts was an avid curler for most of his life, and it would bring him great pride that his nephew was recognizing curling greatness here today.

On behalf of the official opposition, we would like to wish you a well-earned congrats on your recent gold medal at the senior

men's world championship in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Your years of perseverance and dedication for curling have earned you a place in our history. As the shadow minister for Parks, Culture and Sport, I believe your curling success has the power to inspire healthier lifestyles, strengthen community, and encourage resilience.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like the whole Assembly to recognize Randy, Troy, Russ, Chris, and Glen for their great achievement today.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Travis Keisig: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sunday was Mother's Day, a day we celebrate our mothers and the mothers of our children. Unfortunately myself and thousands of other Saskatchewan agriculture producers were unable to spend the day with their mother. They were busy working in the field, getting the crop in. Our world-class agricultural producers are hard at work, Mr. Speaker, and I just want to say, on behalf of all of them, to our mothers: we love you, and we were thinking about you all day.

But if you can't spend Mother's Day with your mother, Mr. Speaker, well the next best thing: bring your mother to work day. I'm very happy, Mr. Speaker, to introduce my mother, Diane Keisig, joining us here today. She is joined by her friend Freda Armstrong. These two ladies, Mr. Speaker, are ruthless card players. They play some very competitive bridge and have a lot of good times together, Mr. Speaker. My mother always says, you have to keep moving to keep your body in shape and you've got to keep playing cards to keep your mind in shape.

Another thing, Mr. Speaker. My mother is a dedicated watcher of legislative proceedings in this House. And it's always interesting when you talk to her, Mr. Speaker, because she refers to everybody by their first name. And it's like she knows everybody, but nobody really knows who she is, you know. Like she'll always say, "Oh, Scott was on fire today," or "Lori's blazer sure looked good," or "Jeez, that Ken, he sure knows a lot of people. He's always on his feet, introducing people." So those are quotes, Mr. Speaker.

Anyway I really want to say that, to you and through you, Mr. Speaker, please join me in welcoming Diane Keisig; Freda Armstrong; her chauffeur for the day, Shannara Keisig; and Brian Armstrong to this, their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Matt Love: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We've got a full House here today, but I don't want to go another moment without recognizing three fine individuals seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker. Today we're joined by Jerry, Cindy, and Lloyd Friesen.

I'm going to start with Lloyd. We just met over lunch for the first time. He's Jerry's brother. He lives between Moose Jaw and Caronport, I believe. And he's the president of AAA hockey in Saskatchewan. I thank him for his service to young athletes in our province.

Now Jerry and Cindy I've known for a little longer. We probably met first just about 30 years ago. It was probably the winter of 1997. I was playing high school basketball with their son Shawn. And I had a great time over lunch catching up and hearing where their kids and grandkids are at. But they're here today for me to say a little bit more about Jerry and his achievements in a member statement later today.

Jerry is just an incredible leader, somebody I've looked up to for a long time in my life. Jerry is football royalty in Western Canada. He began his career with the Huskies playing football, went on to coach, and he went on to play in the CFL [Canadian Football League] for the Alouettes and the Roughriders. He coached in the CFL. He's been a head coach, a defensive coordinator, a special teams coach, and academic advisor across Western Canada.

And he's the kind of person, Mr. Speaker, that I learned probably most about Jerry by what people say when he's not in the room. And the way that people talk about Jerry and his leadership is the way that I think any of us would want somebody to talk about our roles in our community. I want to thank him for his lifetime of service for our province, to the sport of football across Canada.

And you know, as I was preparing to recognize him here today, he let me know that he had never been to his provincial legislature. So I'm so thankful that Jerry and Cindy have joined us here today. I will ask all members of the Assembly to join me in welcoming Jerry, Cindy, and Lloyd to their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Dakota-Arm River.

Barret Kropf: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to be on my feet to introduce that same great sport family from our province. Lloyd Friesen was the principal . . . He's a retired principal from the Caronport Elementary School. And I know that well because I think he retired from being the principal after my third son left that elementary school. He had an impact on my three boys.

And he's not just the president of the Saskatchewan U18 [under 18] AAA league. He's been there for over three decades I believe. Is it not, Lloyd? It's been a really long time that you've given leadership to the sport of hockey in our province, and you continue to be a leader. You manage the rink there in Caronport and you're always dripping leadership on every one of your staff and the players that come by your office. So thank you for your leadership in the sport of hockey here in Saskatchewan.

[14:00]

And to Jerry: our paths have crossed several times. And in 2011 when we were both with the Roughriders, I loved just sitting and talking about leadership with you on the sidelines and in the locker room. It brought me great joy to see your passion to influence young men, and then when I was in Vancouver, how you came alongside my student athletes and helped them discover their purpose and passion.

So congratulations on winning the national Gino Fracas Award for your leadership at the U of S [University of Saskatchewan].

And they're super blessed to have you there patrolling their sidelines, making a difference on and off the field. And just want to thank you both, and your family, for being great contributors not just to sport in Saskatchewan but to developing people. Thank you.

Everyone, please welcome these two fine gentlemen to their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Northeast.

Jacqueline Roy: — Merci, monsieur le Président.

[Translation: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.]

I guess it's also bring your dad to work day here as well. If my dad can give a wave, he's in the east gallery. Dr. Robert Roy, or simply Bob, known to many.

My dad is the past president of the RCMP Veterans' Association. And it was a great honour to bring him here today at the legislature and especially introduce him to people that aren't sitting right in this House, but to the entire team that works here at the legislature, many of whom are retired RCMP members. Seeing my dad interact with them was very humbling for me.

Dad just received the King Charles III medal for his work, often helping individuals that have post-traumatic stress disorder, helping the sick and grieving RCMP members — he visits several hospitals to see them still — helping widows as well get through certain things. He has 20 years of service at the RCMP training academy, and in his retirement has been a strong advocate for that training academy staying here in Regina.

Also despite being a civilian member like he always said, he has served in Bosnia as a psychologist with the United Nations Peacekeeping delegation and in Ottawa as the head psychologist for the RCMP Canada. Thanks for joining me here today, Dad, and I can't wait to introduce you to the members on both sides who have either served or who have lost people unfortunately in their families in the line of service. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Jordan McPhail: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just really quickly I wanted to pop up and welcome Terri and the guests from Onion Lake Cree Nation. I know I had the opportunity to meet with you in the community as well as here at the legislature. And just thank you for all your advocacy here in Saskatchewan, and welcome you to your provincial legislature.

And during introductions, I'll join the member opposite. My former phys ed teacher is now in the galleries behind me — Chris Abtosway. If I didn't get up and pop up I'm pretty sure he would bring his whistle out and make me do a beep test in the rotunda after question period. So I just want to welcome Chris, or Mr. Abtosway as I knew him, to this, your provincial legislature. And I ask that everybody join these fine folks in their legislature. Thanks.

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

Megan Patterson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Megan Patterson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my honour today to introduce three of the most important people in my life, my three sons. I want to start by thanking them for their patience and for their support. They're all key members of my campaign team. They understand how important the work that we do here in this Assembly is, and they understand how important I think the policies of this government are in ensuring that we keep Saskatchewan the best place to work, live, raise a family, and start a business in Canada.

So I'm going to start by introducing Kane, my eldest. Kane was actually born in Ottawa. And when he was one, we decided to come back to Saskatchewan because I knew that I wanted to raise my family here. And Kane is very bright. He's musical. He plays the piano and the bass clarinet. He enjoys tae kwon do and loves cadets.

Next I'd like to introduce John, my eldest twin. John is also very musical, and he plays the piano and the snare drum in the pipe band. John also plays baseball and hockey, and he was recently awarded the most promising athlete in his judo club.

Next, George. George also plays baseball, hockey, plays the piano, and he actually plays the bagpipes in the pipe band. So George is also a very accomplished speed skater. So I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming these very special guests to this, their Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet I'd just like to make a quick introduction: Sarah Wright. Sarah Wright, originally from Nova Scotia, has a strong public relations and communications background. She was our candidate last election in Regina Lakeview. We are very fortunate to have her working with us in the caucus office. Please join me in welcoming Sarah to this, her Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Pasqua.

Joan Pratchler: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you some powerhouses of nursing here in Saskatchewan, in Canada, and abroad.

Dr. Elizabeth Domm enjoyed her career as a registered nurse in Saskatchewan for more than 45 years. Could you please give a wave, Dr. Domm? She worked in acute practice, clinical care, front-line nursing management, and of course in nursing education. She has her master's in nursing administration from North Dakota and a doctorate in nursing from the University of Alberta. She is a wonderful professor of pharmacology and advanced nursing assessment practice.

I'd also like to introduce Dr. Marlene Smadu. She retired after 45 years in registered nursing practice and has worked in all the domains in nursing in Saskatchewan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar,

including serving as the principal nursing advisor with the Government of Saskatchewan. As a board member of the International Council of Nurses for eight years, she spent time in over 35 countries working with nursing colleagues. She has an earned doctorate and two honorary doctorates recognizing her contributions to nursing and to health. Dr. Smadu is currently an executive-in-residence with the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Regina. Could you please give a wave, Dr. Smadu?

Kara Turley is also a registered nurse and nursing faculty member here in Regina. She has a strong background in both clinical practice and health informatics. She holds dual master's degrees — nursing and health information science — and brings over a decade of experience spanning public health, primary care, clinical education, digital health. We worked closely together in designing a state-of-art wraparound mental health recovery process and the IT [information technology] infrastructure and software to support it over this past year.

I'd also like to introduce Dr. Laurie Clune. She is an associate dean of research and scholarship in the graduate programs at the University of Regina Faculty of Nursing. She's responsible for the Master of Nursing program, the nurse practitioner program, and the Ph.D. [Doctor of Philosophy] programs in the faculty. She holds a Ph.D. and is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Nursing, that is, one of only two of Saskatchewan nurses to receive this national honour. Her current research focuses on creating pathways away from homelessness, particularly for women with children and youth caring for younger siblings.

Sarah Fox-Smith is a registered nurse with over 25 years of experience in integrative oncology nursing. She holds a master degree in nursing and is also currently a faculty member at the school of nursing, where she teaches nursing students with a focus on pediatric, holistic, and community-based health care.

May I invite all members to welcome these esteemed professionals, who embody the power of nurses to transform health. Please join me.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Kelvington-Wadena.

Chris Beaudry: — To you and through you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce a school group from Rose Valley, the grade 3 and 4 class who are here with their teacher, Ms. Chelsey Campbell — one of the top educators in the northeast — and Ms. Sunel Nortje.

Also if my eyes aren't failing me, I think I see two of my spawn up in the back, back row. One's trying to hide. I see Emily Beaudry and Sophie Beaudry. Now I would caution everyone, if you're looking to get aggressive, Sophie, one of her favourite things to do is work out. And she's pretty tough, so keep clear. And if anybody needs any help with watching their children, that's one of Emily's passions, so probably a future caregiver there.

And lastly, I'd like to just recognize again my friend Abbie Houston. Our paths have crossed in my former work in mental health and addictions.

So welcome Abbie, Sophie, Emily, Ms. Campbell, Ms. Nortje, and the rest of the 3/4 class from Rose Valley.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Carla Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What an uplifting day to invite so many folks, so many leaders, examples of excellence in our province, and so many advocates to this, their Legislative Assembly. I want to welcome all of you, and I think it was fitting that we had the delegations from Hungary and from the Chinese people's republic here to witness so much of the vibrancy that exists in our province when it comes to the quality and dedication of people in this province.

There's one more theme that I want to address, and that is family, Mr. Speaker, on this, the day after Mother's Day. I've been surprised for the second time in two days by my mom, Judy, and one of our youngest of our three kids, Maya, who have joined us here today. Yesterday the kids made us brunch and they cleaned up, and I hope all moms here enjoyed a special Mother's Day as well.

My mom, Judy, I've had opportunity to introduce her many times and her accomplishments, certainly an advocate and a leader in her own right. This was the first Mother's Day without my grandma Olive, my mom's mom. So it's extra special to have her here today and to thank her.

I'll say something just quickly about Maya who's home from school this summer, her first year of nursing under her belt, has come home to work with children with autism this summer. And how lucky are you, Maya, to be seated in front of so many leaders in health care and nursing right behind you. You'd do well to turn around and ask for their leadership.

On behalf of the official opposition, to all guests here today, especially to all family members and all moms, please welcome all of our guests, but especially my mom and my daughter Maya to this, their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education.

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask leave for an extended introduction.

Speaker Goudy: — The minister has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff: — Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. Wow, what a special day it is. I'd like to also introduce Jerry Friesen, who was a coach with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies when I had the opportunity to play for that football team. I look forward to the member's statement very quickly.

And, Mr. Speaker, I also want to introduce, seated in the west gallery, Daniel and Brandy Caswell. Daniel works for the newly elected Member of Parliament Brad Redekopp, MP [Member of Parliament] for Saskatoon West.

Today was originally scheduled to be condolence motion day,

and Daniel came here to hear the condolence motion for his mom, who was a member of the legislature. I'm just going to take a few seconds to read what I was going to say on condolence day before it was moved.

Daniel's mom is Gay White Caswell. Gay Caswell served as the member for Saskatoon Westmount from '82-86 as a Progressive Conservative. Mrs. Caswell was born in Davidson in 1948. Gay went to Girvin School for grade 10 and graduated grade 12 at Davidson high school. She received her teacher's certificate from the University of Regina and a Bachelor of Arts majoring in history from St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan. She married her husband, John Caswell, in 1971 and the couple had six children.

Mrs. Caswell and her husband, John, devoted their lives to serving First Nations people all over northern Saskatchewan, advocating and sharing the love of Christ far and wide. They founded L'École Notre Dame Du Nord mission, an independent Catholic school in Brabant Lake in operation since 1996.

I reached out to former premier Devine, and I asked about Gay Caswell. And he said she was proud of her faith; never backed down. And he had some advice for members that are trying to get the attention of a cabinet minister. Gay wasn't very tall, and one of the cabinet ministers at the time was very tall, and she was trying to get his attention. And he was carrying on in conversation and she was right there. She gave him a little kick in the shins and she got his attention right away — a story where she always received attention after that.

[14:15]

But colleagues, please help me welcome Daniel and Brandy to their Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Weyburn-Bengough.

Michael Weger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just want to take an opportunity to also welcome my friend Chris Abtosway to his legislature. And for the benefit of his students, Mr. Speaker, Chris and I go way back, about 25 years now, to when we attended the U of R [University of Regina] together and lived in Luther residence together.

And my memory from that time, Mr. Speaker, involved us going to class, eating in the cafeteria, playing some intramural sports, and then locking ourselves in our dorm rooms to study. And that's pretty much it. Sometimes we rewarded ourselves with watching a game of Sunday night football in the common area after.

And also, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to also recognize one of the students from Gladmar School, Leon Abtosway up there as well. Leon was on my son's U15 AA Annugas Weyburn Red Wing team this past season. And I was lucky enough to be in the stands many times to watch some absolute highlight-reel saves from this young man. He's got a great future ahead of him in the sport of hockey as well, Mr. Speaker.

So I'd just ask everyone to please welcome these two individuals and the full class of classmates, I guess, from Gladmar School to

this Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Southeast.

Brittney Senger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to introduce my constituency assistant, Matthew Hildebrandt seated in the east gallery.

Matthew started working on my team back in January, and he has been invaluable. The work that he's done for me has truly helped me succeed in supporting my constituency. Prior to joining my team, he previously worked in communications and was also involved in the provincial election in the Martensville riding.

So I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming Matthew.

Speaker Goudy: — And I just really quick would want to welcome Mrs. Keisig to her Legislative Assembly as well. I don't know if you realize, but when you serve a long time in the Chamber and especially sit at the same desk as someone else, you become like family to them. And I just wanted to mention for Mrs. Keisig that I've never seen her son really break the rules, bend the rules until today. And so that must say something about the nerves that come over a son, even at our age. So welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

And I think for all of the other family members, the parents and children who are here today, as the Premier often says, none of us serve alone. And thank you for sharing your father or husband or son or daughter with us. We really appreciate that, and welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Jordan McPhail: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise today to present a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan calling for improved mental health services for northern and rural Saskatchewan.

The undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan wish to bring to our attention the following: that the rate of suicide among Indigenous people is three times higher than that of non-Indigenous people; that suicide rates of Indigenous people living on-reserve are twice as high as those living off-reserve; that the historical and ongoing impacts of colonization, displacement, and intergenerational trauma are related to the high rates of suicide among Indigenous people; and that safe consumption sites, wellness centres, and specialized outreach programs would save lives.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to address and work with vulnerable communities in the North and rural areas and to provide adequate mental health funding and services for northern and rural Indigenous communities.

The signatories of this petition reside in Saskatoon. I do so

present.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Matt Love: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to present, for the first time, a petition from concerned citizens in Saskatchewan who are calling on this government to take immediate action to stand up for Indigenous children and all vulnerable students by advocating for the full restoration of funding previously supported by Jordan's principle.

Those who signed this petition are concerned that the loss of this funding will leave a significant gap in Saskatchewan classrooms, and they note the recent layoff of 80 educational assistants from Saskatoon Public Schools. In addition, Mr. Speaker, these folks are concerned because these cuts are coming at an already alarming time, a time where our schools are already stretched to the breaking point due to chronic underfunding and short-staffing.

I'll read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan stand up for Saskatchewan and advocate for the restoration of federal Jordan's principle funding to support Indigenous students in school; commit to sustainable, predictable, and equitable provincial funding for inclusive education across Saskatchewan; and ensure educational support workers have the resources and staffing they need to keep classrooms safe and support every student's learning journey.

Today's petition is signed by residents of Indian Head, Fort Qu'Appelle, Kipling, and Broadview. I proudly submit.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

Betty Nippi-Albright: — Miigwech, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise and present the following petition to petition the government to have some duty-to-consult legislation.

The folks who signed this petition would like to bring to our attention the following: Saskatchewan needs legislation to ensure provincial duty-to-consult is fulfilled and is carried out with the honour of the Crown; the Sask Party voted against duty-to-consult legislation; the current duty-to-consult policy in Saskatchewan is not effective; the Sask Party government did not follow its own guidelines on consulting with inherent and treaty rights holders while drafting the new and revised duty-to-consult policy.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to enshrine duty-to-consult into law by enacting meaningful duty-to-consult legislation.

The folks who signed this petition reside in Prince Albert and Duck Lake. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Rochdale.

National Nursing Week Recognizes the Impact of Nurses on Health Care

Joan Pratchler: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week marks National Nursing Week. It takes place from May 12th to May 18th, and the theme this year is "The Power of Nurses to Transform Health." This theme highlights the incredible impact that nurses have in shaping health care, driving innovation, and advocating for patient-centred care. National Nursing Week serves as an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the hard work and dedication of nurses across Canada and around the world.

This week draws attention to nurses, increasing the awareness, of the public, policy-makers, and governments, of many contributions that nurses have been and continue to be taking in order to improve the well-being of Canadians. In 1971 the International Council of Nurses designated May 12th the birthday of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, as International Nurses Day. Since 1985 the week containing May 12th is now proclaimed National Nursing Week.

Nursing is a fast-paced profession and offers a wide variety of practice areas. I myself have been a public health nurse, community mental health nurse, and in private practice as a nurse education consultant. Saskatchewan's nursing schools are also powerhouses of excellence here in our province as well because their programming is rigorous, evidence-, and clinical-based, and their graduates are highly regarded for their expertise, leadership, critical thinking, and above all being able to offer safe, compassionate care.

Let us all take a moment to recognize these nurses and the other nurses that are all part of the nursing team, here in our House, and be proud of the power of nurses to transform health care in Saskatchewan.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Humboldt-Watrous.

Disability Service Professionals Help Build Inclusive Communities

Racquel Hilbert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From May 11th to the 17th we recognize Disability Service Professionals Week, a time to recognize the dedication of those special individuals who work to provide for supports for persons with disabilities across Saskatchewan.

Disability service professionals are essential partners in building inclusive communities. Their work ensures that people with disabilities are valued, supported, and included members of their communities. Whether helping with day-to-day living, coordinating care, delivering specialized programs, these professionals make the difference in the lives of people with disabilities every day.

Mr. Speaker, our government is proud to jointly proclaim this as Disability Service Professionals Week alongside SARC

[Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres] and its member organizations. We will continue to partner with SARC and the disability service sector to support their needs and effectively meet the needs of individuals we serve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in expressing our sincere appreciation to the Saskatchewan disability service professionals. Their work makes our province stronger and more inclusive for everyone. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

Remembering Jordan Belly

Betty Nippi-Albright: — It is my honour to rise and pay tribute to Jordan Belly from Onion Lake Cree Nation. I had the privilege of working very closely with Jordan over a four-year span on the Crown's duty to consult in Saskatchewan.

Jordan and his duty-to-consult team worked hard to protect the lands of inherent and treaty rights holders in Saskatchewan. As the environmental monitor technician and area-mapping specialist, he developed a mapping system for schools and emergency departments. He also mapped the traditional hunting, fishing, gathering, and medicine-picking territories for Onion Lake and other First Nations. He was always willing to do whatever he could to help. The impact of what he did has left a legacy of empowerment for his Nation in protecting inherent and treaty rights.

To his family, his fiancée, his children, his parents, and his community of Onion Lake Cree Nation: always be proud of what he did in protecting the inherent and treaty rights in this province when it comes to our lands.

On behalf of all treaty rights holders in this province, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to Jordan's family and the Onion Lake Cree Nation. I invite all members to rise and join me in honouring Jordan Belly's memory, and in thanking him for his contribution to meaningful duty-to-consult in this province. Miigwech.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Canora-Pelly.

Small Business Showcases Capabilities of People with Disabilities

Sean Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Teddy Hudye. In the world of entrepreneurship, some businesses are built to turn a profit, while others are born out of a deeper purpose, one that changes perceptions and creates opportunities. Handi-Capable, founded by Teddy Hudye, is a shining example of this.

Ten years ago Hudye's life took a drastic turn when a dirt bike accident left him paralyzed. But rather than letting that define his future, he refused to be slowed down. Rejecting labels such as handicapped or disabled, he created Handi-Capable, a company dedicated to showcasing people with disabilities while delivering high-quality Canadian branded clothing.

The company is a team of talented individuals, most of whom

have disabilities, working together to create custom apparel that speaks to craftsmanship, innovation, and resilience. Currently Handi-Capable operates as an online store, allowing customers to support its mission by purchasing merchandise through the website, but the journey doesn't stop there. Plans for a physical storefront are in motion, set to further establish the brand as a leading example of entrepreneurship, inclusion, and empowerment in the Canora-Pelly constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate Teddy and his team, which includes Josh Gogol and Ethen Krawetz. The world needs more initiatives like this, ones that uplift voices, create meaningful opportunities, and show the limitless potential of handi-capable individuals. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Saskatoon Football Coaches Receive National Recognition

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, Saskatoon Eastview is home to not one but two truly incredible post-secondary football coaches who received national recognition for their work last fall. Tom Sargeant has been the head coach of the Saskatoon Hilltops for the past 26 years, during which time he's led the Hilltops to 14 Canadian Bowl titles and most recently was awarded the Canadian Junior Football League Coach of the Year for the third time in his career. Tom's record and commitment to his team, his city, and his province are truly second to none.

And today we're joined by Jerry Friesen. Jerry is a legend in the sport as a player, as a coach, and as a mentor to many. Jerry is a coach for coaches. His journey began in Rosthern, Saskatchewan with playing stops at the U of S, the Montreal Alouettes, and our own Saskatchewan Roughriders.

[14:30]

And then his coaching career — again back with the Roughriders, and he coached in many U Sports programs across Western Canada. Jerry's career truly reflects a lifetime of service to the game and to his communities. This past season Jerry was honoured with the Gino Fracas Award as the U Sports football volunteer coach of the year.

I would like to ask the Assembly to join me in congratulating these two legendary individuals, thank them for their service to our province, and wish them luck as they prepare for another successful year of Hilltops and Huskie football. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Carrot River Valley.

Health Human Resources Action Plan Results in Increased Staffing of Nurses

Terri Bromm: — Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan continues to make remarkable progress in building a strong and sustainable health care workforce. Thanks to focused efforts, the province added 1,006 new practising registered nurses in 2024 compared to the previous year, including 63 additional nurse practitioners. We also saw 11 more registered psychiatric nurses.

Overall nurse staffing increased by 5.1 per cent last year. After last year's record 6.2 per cent jump, this year's increase ranks as the third biggest since 2007. In just two years the nursing workforce has grown by over 11 per cent. That's more than 2,000 new nurses added to our system, and nearly 7,500 since 2007, representing a 59 per cent increase.

These strong numbers are a result of our ambitious health human resources action plan now entering its third year. Since its launch in the fall of 2022, more than 1,800 new nursing graduates have been hired; over 400 internationally educated health professionals have joined our workforce; and 250 new full-time positions have been created in high-priority areas, particularly in rural and remote communities. Continued investments and strategic planning are ensuring we remain a destination of choice for health care professionals looking to build their careers, support their families, and deliver high-quality care to the people of our province. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert Carlton.

Provincial Job Creation Numbers

Kevin Kasun: — Mr. Speaker, some more good news from this side of the House. For the second straight month Saskatchewan has the best job creation record in the country. According to the latest StatsCan report, Saskatchewan created more than 21,000 new jobs over the past year. That's the strongest growth . . . job rate in the country and more than two and a half times the national growth rate. Saskatchewan's unemployment rate fell to 4.3 per cent. That's the lowest unemployment rate in Canada and well below the national rate of 6.9 per cent.

There are more full-time jobs, more part-time jobs. There are more women working. There are more men working. There are more people working in Regina. There are more people working in Saskatoon. More people are working in health care, in education, agriculture, construction; more people working in forestry, fishing, oil and gas, mining. There are more young people working, more First Nations and Métis working.

Mr. Speaker, the only thing not working in Saskatchewan are the NDP's [New Democratic Party] scare tactics. They've spent the whole session telling us how the threats of tariffs and separation are going to drive thousands of jobs out of this province. But the only threat that ever drove jobs out of this province was the NDP.

Mr. Speaker, there is good news. We are never going to be the 51st state, we are never going to separate, and we are never going back to the days of the NDP.

QUESTION PERIOD

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

National Unity and Economic Stability

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, the talk of separation has the potential to cause serious generational harms to the Saskatchewan economy, to cost us jobs, investments, even head offices. And Canadians have seen this before, Mr. Speaker. There's a reason that the Bank of Montreal is now headquartered

in Toronto, and I don't want to see that kind of damage happen here in Saskatchewan.

So today, will the Premier tell the separatists in his own caucus and those who supported his election that they're doing more harm than good?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I would point out that the Bank of Nova Scotia is also centred in, their headquarters are in Toronto as well, Mr. Speaker, and there's no referendum there.

However, Mr. Speaker, most certainly, Mr. Speaker, this government is very aware of how we can grow our provincial economy by attracting investment into the province of Saskatchewan to develop the natural resources, to develop the opportunity for all, the entirety of Saskatchewan people regardless of where they live, Mr. Speaker.

That's why you're seeing global or international mining companies, food processing companies, value-added agricultural companies that are investing literally billions of dollars into our province, creating not only those construction jobs but creating those ongoing operational jobs as we attain a higher value of exports and send that to some 160 countries around the world.

And that's working, Mr. Speaker. Today Saskatchewan is leading the nation when it comes to the lowest unemployment rate of all provinces in Canada. Over 20,000 jobs have been created by that investment over the course of the last year, Mr. Speaker. Most certainly Saskatchewan is in a very strong position when it comes to continuing the job growth, continuing the investment attraction, and continuing on our endeavour, Mr. Speaker, as a government to provide opportunities for all that live here and all that will very soon choose to live here.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Carla Beck: — Certainly, Mr. Speaker, opportunities exist. But people are wondering why this Premier continues to pooh-pooh the threat of separatism, Mr. Speaker, to downplay the threat of separatism. Mr. Speaker, I think it's pretty clear. His pal, Danielle Smith, said the quiet part out loud last week when she said that the separatist referendum that she's steering is entirely to save her own political hide, Mr. Speaker.

I think that the Premier in this Chamber is doing exactly the same thing by refusing to call out separatism despite all of the harm and potential harm that it will cause. Mr. Speaker, is the Premier seriously willing to put Saskatchewan jobs on the line to save his own job?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I heard two statements in there. One is people are wondering, and two, people are pooh-poohing, Mr. Speaker. With respect to who is wondering, people across Canada are wondering how in Saskatchewan we are able to attract the billions of dollars investments into developing the industries that are creating over 20,000 jobs just in this last year, over 100,000 jobs since 2007. People across Canada are wondering how Saskatchewan has changed, how Saskatchewan

has gone from an area of the poorest job growth and poorest job development in the nation to leading the nation when it comes to creating jobs, Mr. Speaker, and attracting investments.

People are wondering. What this government is pooh-poohing, Mr. Speaker, is a bill that would double the criteria for a citizen-led referendum or petition or plebiscite, Mr. Speaker, so that they could have their voice heard in between the election cycles that we have. To double the 125,000-person criteria or benchmark that we have today to 250,000 — which is the effort and the initiative of the opposition, Mr. Speaker, to have that level of participation to precipitate a plebiscite in this province — that's more support than the NDP have gotten since 1991. That means that they would not even have a voice on the floor of this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, if that's the criteria that is required.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

National Unity and Referendum Legislation

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, the Premier tells quite a story, but here's the facts. Under that Premier, he has the worst full-time job creation record in the entire country. And you know what doesn't help when it comes to job growth? That is refusing to stand up to the talk of separatism. Refusing to make clear just how damaging that threat could be to people in this province, to jobs and the economy.

Now, Mr. Speaker, last week I brought forward urgent legislation to raise the threshold for a vote on separatism and to block that government from imposing such a vote. Now the Premier, he's promised that we could have a free vote, a free vote on this issue. But you know what? This morning Mr. Speaker, his communications team, they tried to undermine that vote.

The Premier says one thing, but his actions show something completely different. Today I'm going to ask him a pretty simple question. Will he commit to moving this bill forward and to that free vote that he promised in the Chamber today? No more delay. Let's put this to bed. No more political games from that Premier.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — 250,000 people supporting your initiative. Is that the criteria that the Leader of the Opposition feels is necessary to have a vote and a voice on the floor of this Assembly?

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

Selection of Location for Costco Store

Jared Clarke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We find ourselves in the middle of yet another fiasco involving the Sask Party government and the GTH [Global Transportation Hub]. Now the city of Regina was all but ready to sign off on a much-needed second Costco in Westerra when the Sask Party government swooped in and tried to move it to the GTH. Now this led to the Sask Party government-caused bidding war that cost the residents of Regina nearly \$7 million.

Will the minister apologize for this latest screw-up at the GTH?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. David Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to go on record and make it very clear that the Global Transportation Hub did not swoop in on the deal at all, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Costco obviously had a real estate agent that reached out to the Global Transportation Hub and looked at the property and looked at the logistics around it. The Global Transportation Hub is a logistics . . . for industry growth, and logistics around that that will benefit not only the community of Regina, not only the province of Saskatchewan, but for the country of Canada as a whole, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we looked at . . . Obviously the decision has been made that the Costco store will now be located in Westerra in Regina. That's a business decision made between the city of Regina and Costco, Mr. Speaker.

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

Jared Clarke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The GTH could have just said no and not cost Regina citizens \$7 million. This was a ridiculous move, Mr. Speaker. It showed no respect for taxpayers, and it may have even risked Regina not getting the second Costco in the first place.

Now we told the minister on Friday that we would be demanding a full apology from this government for wasting nearly \$7 million. I'll give the minister another chance here. Will he find his feet and formally apologize to the people of Regina for this GTH Costco fiasco?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of the GTH.

Hon. David Marit: — Let's make it very clear, Mr. Speaker. The Global Transportation Hub is a logistical industrial park, Mr. Speaker. The land price for the Global Transportation Hub is public knowledge. It's out there as an industrial park, Mr. Speaker. And that's what . . . [inaudible].

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Hon. David Marit: — The discussion came to the Global Transportation Hub and Costco, the potential of becoming a distribution hub for the entire province, Mr. Speaker. That's why the Costco store was looking out at the Global Transportation Hub as a location, because there was discussion about it becoming a distribution hub, Mr. Speaker. When that discussion ceased, then the global transportation was out of the situation and the discussion became between the city and Global Transportation Hub and the developer on the location into Westerra, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Silverspring.

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, Mr. Speaker, just when the Saskatchewan taxpayer thought it was safe, the GTH has risen from the grave to haunt them once again. And, Mr. Speaker, I don't think the minister even understands

the damages that his actions have done.

On Thursday, when asked about the city of Regina's reaction to this expensive ordeal, GTH CEO [chief executive officer] Daniel Hersche said, "I think maybe this is the time to have a little bit of a reset on our relationship to make sure we're moving in a positive direction." Well no kidding. A reset is needed because this Sask Party government undermined the city of Regina and cost its taxpayers \$7 million.

Why won't the minister apologize to the people of Regina for this waste of public money?

[14:45]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of the GTH.

Hon. David Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let's look at what the Global Transportation Hub has brought to the city of Regina and the community and the province, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over 1,600 jobs have been created through the Global Transportation Hub. Over \$1.8 billion by the end of 2025 will be spent on the Global Transportation Hub and the economy of this province.

And let's look at just some of those business communities, Mr. Speaker. 4Tracks Ltd. operation facility with key delivery providing all of Loblaw's, Mr. Speaker. Also Cargill's largest canola crush facility will be located in the Global Transportation Hub. That will employ many people as well, Mr. Speaker.

This is all good news, more good news coming out of the Global Transportation Hub, who does have a good relationship . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — I am going to ask for order. Next question.

Hugh Gordon: — Mr. Speaker, I know the Sask Party government was happy to blow a billion dollars on the . . .

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Silverspring.

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll take my cue from the light next time. Sorry about that.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Sask Party government was happy to blow through a billion dollars on the GTH, but not everybody in this province was comfortable burning through that much cash.

Regina City Council was already facing a tough budget before the Sask Party government cost them yet another \$7 million. Regina taxpayers shouldn't be on the hook for the Sask Party government's failures, and that minister won't even apologize. This was an expensive, quite avoidable mess created by the Sask Party government. Why won't the minister take responsibility and apologize today?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of the GTH.

Hon. David Marit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess I would dare that member to go out and tell the 1,600 people that work

out in the Global Transportation Hub that they shouldn't be there. Mr. Speaker, they're good-paying jobs. Probably most of those people, most of those people live in the city of Regina, Mr. Speaker. They buy houses and they pay taxes and they buy their food and everything else, Mr. Speaker . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — I'm not sure why we can't listen to the answer when the answer is being given. Minister of the GTH.

Hon. David Marit: — Mr. Speaker, the Global Transportation Hub and the city of Regina have an excellent working relationship and partnership, Mr. Speaker. Obviously there's agreements for firefighting that they work together on. There's water issues. There's service issues. There's always planning and development around that, Mr. Speaker.

Is there an opportunity for the Global Transportation Hub and the city to sit down together under the management structure that's happening in the city of Regina? We welcome that opportunity with the council members to sit down and have a discussion about future growth around the Global Transportation Hub, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Stonebridge.

Water Levels in South Saskatchewan River

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today, two of my colleagues stood with the leadership of the Prairie Lily Riverboat on the Prairie Lily Riverboat in Saskatoon. And I was hoping to again experience that river cruise myself next Wednesday but my ticket, along with 5,000 other tickets, were recently cancelled due to low water levels.

The Prairie Lily is an icon, and it drives jobs and tourism dollars in Saskatoon. The Sask Party knew more than a year ago that there was a looming crisis with the sandbars in the South Saskatchewan River, but they did nothing and are doing nothing. Why did the Sask Party do nothing on this important issue for the city of Saskatoon?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Daryl Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Water Security Agency manages Lake Diefenbaker's water supply for all users of the system. For context, 60 per cent of the province relies on Lake Diefenbaker for its drinking water supply. Saskatchewan has seen droughts over the last few years and low mountain runoff this year. Careful reservoir management is essential.

WSA [Water Security Agency] has reached out to impacted stakeholders, including Prairie River Cruises, and continues to engage. If circumstances change, WSA will reassess flow levels. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Stonebridge.

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sounds like we

don't have enough water for an irrigation project in this province. Mr. Speaker, they knew about this issue more than a year ago, and they sat on their hands. They did nothing, and so much is at risk. The fireworks festival could be cancelled if the boats for the fireworks can't use the river. The police and fire department can't use their boat launch, which is critical for public safety on the water. And they hit the jobs and economy. For the Prairie Lily's — Prairie Lily's, I don't know why I'm struggling to say that — Prairie Lily's cancellation is real.

Will the Sask Party take responsibility for how they've mismanaged the water levels in the South Saskatchewan River?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of the Water Security Agency.

Hon. Daryl Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said in my previous answer, WSA manages Lake Diefenbaker's water supply for all users on the system. Saskatchewan has seen prolonged dry conditions over the last few years. Water Security Agency is taking a conservative approach to managing water. If circumstances change, WSA will reassess.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Health Care Staffing and Access to Care

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today we are joined by SEIU-West members. They are here on behalf of over 13,000 essential front-line health care staff that provide critical care that our province needs, from LPNs to CCAs and more.

This session we've consistently raised concerns about hospital blackouts across this province. But behind those disruptions is a front-line reality that is bad and getting worse. Critical short-staffing, burnout, unsafe conditions — all of which result often in substandard care or no care at all.

We must prioritize hiring but also retaining staff to support existing employees and keep our facilities open. But there are currently zero health care providers endorsing the 2022 six-page recruitment and retention strategy that government holds up as a shield every time we bring up these issues.

When will this government scrap their failed strategy and actually get to work pursuing the many promising ideas that are being championed by actual health care workers themselves?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Mr. Speaker, I could say that myself and the Government of Saskatchewan, we're proud of the health human resources action plan, Mr. Speaker, because we've invested nearly half a billion dollars into this action plan, ensuring that we are filling gaps in the system, filling positions, converting positions from part-time and casual to full-time positions, Mr. Speaker.

There is absolutely more work to do, Mr. Speaker. That's why we work with partners like SEIU-West, the other provider

unions, Mr. Speaker, to ensure . . . to listen to what the challenges are, understand what the potential solutions are, and work together towards those solutions.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that has added training seats in the province, even just in this year's budget, 153 more CCA training spots in this province. Another 46 LPN training seats, Mr. Speaker. Again, this government is dedicated to recognizing that there's gaps in the system and making sure we're trying to fill those gaps. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Meara Conway: — Mr. Speaker, that action plan has failed. Show me one health care worker that will say otherwise. Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan residents should be able to get the care they need in their home community. And we heard today of critical short-staffing, that it's especially bad in rural Saskatchewan from acute care to long-term care. It's common for rural community members to pack up and leave because they just don't know if health care services will be available.

But these communities should be able to get health care at home. Beyond looking to webcams or virtual physicians in emergency situations, what is the minister doing to ensure that rural health care services remain open? What is he doing to reverse the escalating closures and chaos in rural health care?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Now, Mr. Speaker, this is an opposition that just wants to condemn people and ban things, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker . . .

Speaker Goudy: — I'd ask that you apologize and withdraw that. Answer the question.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Apologize and withdraw, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is an opposition that has made policy suggestions in this spring session that would reduce services to people in rural Saskatchewan, exactly the services that the member opposite talks about, Mr. Speaker.

In terms of banning virtual care, Mr. Speaker, that is not something that this government is going to do. In terms of removing community lab services, Mr. Speaker, that's not something that this government is going to do. Mr. Speaker, there are hundreds of people that have taken advantage of the incentives that we have in place to move to a rural community, take on a full-time position and practise their profession in communities large and small right across the province, Mr. Speaker.

We will continue with these incentives, Mr. Speaker, continue looking for ways to train, retain, and incentivize more people to work in our system. Thank you.

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

Changes to Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, people are frustrated and concerned with the Sask Party's changes to the SINP [Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program]. Many of them joined us at the legislature today in a protest. They are frustrated the Sask Party government has closed the SINP for hospitality, retail, and trucking industries, even for those applications that were already submitted.

Why is the Sask Party government treating these people so unfairly?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, the critic mentioned the frustration that these guests in the gallery are feeling today, Mr. Speaker, I share that frustration. Mr. Speaker, without any consultation the federal government cut the number of nominees in half and then put further restrictions on that half, that three-quarters have to come from temporary residents. Mr. Speaker, I share those frustrations.

I have heard recently though, Mr. Speaker, that on the work permit situation that the federal government, I believe, has agreed to extend work permits in Manitoba, Mr. Speaker. When I heard that, I instructed our officials to reach out to see if something similar could happen here.

My understanding from the media is that there'll be a new federal cabinet appointed tomorrow, Mr. Speaker. When a new minister is appointed, I'll be reaching out to the minister as well.

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

Noor Burki: — Mr. Speaker, we all in this House agree that the small businesses are the backbone of our economy. For businesses the labour force is their fuel to run, grow, and thrive. Due to 50 per cent federal cuts, our neighbouring province of Manitoba has extended work permits for people in their province for two years to support business and economic resilience.

It's the right thing to do. Will the minister do the same to give relief to Saskatchewan businesses?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in the previous answer, that's exactly what we're doing. I've directed officials in the ministry to reach out to federal officials. I will be reaching out to the minister as soon as there is a new minister in that position, Mr. Speaker.

As far as the small-business issue that the member opposite raised, I certainly agree with him the importance of small business in this province, Mr. Speaker. In fact it was small-business people reaching out and suggesting that something similar would be beneficial to them was the impetus for directing the ministry officials to reach out to the federal officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina

Coronation Park.

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently government put a cap of 25 per cent on applications for essential industries who are heavily dependent on foreign workers, like trucking, hospitality, and retail. This has severely hurt many businesses who rely on specialized workers in a labour shortage. Why has the Sask Party government capped only those sectors? How this is fair for those businesses?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Immigration and Career Training.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, those decisions were not something that we took lightly or that we wanted to do, Mr. Speaker. Those were a direct result of cuts from the federal government. They halved the number from about 7,200 to 3,600 of economic stream SINP nominees that we have, Mr. Speaker, and then they further restricted 35 per cent of those, which essentially leaves about 900 for international immigration for that, Mr. Speaker.

We're already about a third of the way through the year, Mr. Speaker, and I believe, over half the nominees are already allocated. If we continued to allocate them, we would have run out already. And we need those for areas like, for example, nurse recruitment or to recruit specialized surgeons, those sorts of things, Mr. Speaker.

[15:00]

Not happy about this, Mr. Speaker. This was a decision without consultation by the federal Liberal government, propped up by the NDP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — Why is the member on her feet?

MOTIONS**Second Reading of Bill No. 604**

Nicole Sarauer: — Mr. Speaker, notwithstanding the government's agenda and what's published in the orders of the day today, I request leave to move the following motion:

That the Assembly immediately reconsider second reading of Bill No. 604, *The Referendum and Plebiscite (Keep Saskatchewan in Canada) Amendment Act*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave to put this forward. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

ORDERS OF THE DAY**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

Deputy Clerk: — Committee of Finance.

Speaker Goudy: — I do now leave the Chair for the Committee

of Finance.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Motions for Supply

Chair B. McLeod: — The items before the committee today are the appropriation resolutions. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — I move the following resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2025, the sum of \$923,955,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Chair B. McLeod: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2025, the sum of \$923,955,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

Chair B. McLeod: — Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Chair B. McLeod: — Carried. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — I move the following resolution no. 2:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2026, the sum of \$18,318,557,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Chair B. McLeod: — The Minister of Finance has moved resolution no. 2:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2026, the sum of \$18,318,557,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

Chair B. McLeod: — Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Chair B. McLeod: — Carried. There being no further business before the committee, I would invite a member to move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Chair B. McLeod: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the committee rise, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Chair B. McLeod: — Carried.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Chair of Committees.

Blaine McLeod: — 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.

Speaker Goudy: — When shall the resolution be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS

Hon. Jim Reiter: — I move that the resolutions be now read the first and second time.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

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

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

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — Next sitting. Pursuant to rule 32(1), the Minister of Finance shall move first reading of the appropriation bill. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

APPROPRIATION BILL

Bill No. 23 — *The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)*

Hon. Jim Reiter: — I move that Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025* be now introduced and read the first time.

Speaker Goudy: — The Minister of Finance has moved that Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)* be now introduced and read the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Yeas — 33]

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this bill.

Speaker Goudy: — When shall the bill be read the second time?
I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — I request leave to move second reading of Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025* immediately.

Speaker Goudy: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to move second and third reading of Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)* immediately. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Nays — 21]

Speaker Goudy: — Carried. The minister may proceed.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Pursuant to rule 32(1)(e), I move that Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025* be now read a second and third time.

Speaker Goudy: — The Minister of Finance has moved second and third reading of Bill No. 23, *The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)*. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

An Hon. Member: — On division.

Speaker Goudy: — On division.

Deputy Clerk: — Second and third reading of this bill.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To facilitate the work of committee, I move that this House do now adjourn.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved that this Assembly do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

Speaker Goudy: — Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 15:09 until 15:19.]

Speaker Goudy: — The question before the Assembly is the motion put forward by the Government House Leader that this Assembly do now adjourn. Would all those in favour please rise?

Moe	Harrison, D.	Kaeding
Marit	Cockrill	Reiter
Hindley	Harrison, J.	Jenson
Young, C.	Cheveldayoff	Keisig
Thorsteinson	Martens	Hilbert
Steele	Schmalz	Ross
McLeod, T.	Carr	Wilson
Weedmark	Beaudry	McLeod, B.
Crassweller	Kropf	Weger
Patterson	Bromm	Rowden
Chan	Gartner	Kasun

Speaker Goudy: — All of those opposed, please stand.

Beck	Ritchie	Burki
Mowat	Wotherspoon	Love
Teed	Young, A.	Laliberte
McPhail	Sarauer	Blakley
Grewal	ChiefCalf	Jorgenson
Brar	Warrington	Pratchler
Housser	Senger	Roy

Principal Clerk: — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the motion, 33; those opposed to the motion, 21.

Speaker Goudy: — I declare the motion carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:23.]

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

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

Hon. Lori Carr
Minister of Mental Health and Addictions,
Seniors and Rural and Remote Health

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Advanced Education

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill
Minister of Health

Hon. Daryl Harrison
Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation
Minister Responsible for
Saskatchewan Water Security Agency

Hon. Jeremy Harrison
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
Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan Corporation

Hon. Everett Hindley
Minister of Education

Hon. Terry Jenson
Minister of Social Services

Hon. Warren Kaeding
Minister of Trade and Export Development
Minister Responsible for Innovation

Hon. Travis Keisig
Minister of Environment

Hon. David Marit
Minister of Highways
Minister of SaskBuilds and Procurement
Minister Responsible for the
Global Transportation Hub Authority

Hon. Tim McLeod
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety
Minister Responsible for the Firearms Secretariat

Hon. Jim Reiter
Deputy Premier
Minister of Finance
Minister of Immigration and Career Training
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the
Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Alana Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Minister Responsible for
Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan

Hon. Eric Schmalz
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for
First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs
Minister Responsible for the
Provincial Capital Commission

Hon. Colleen Young
Minister of Energy and Resources