FIRST SESSION — THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD)
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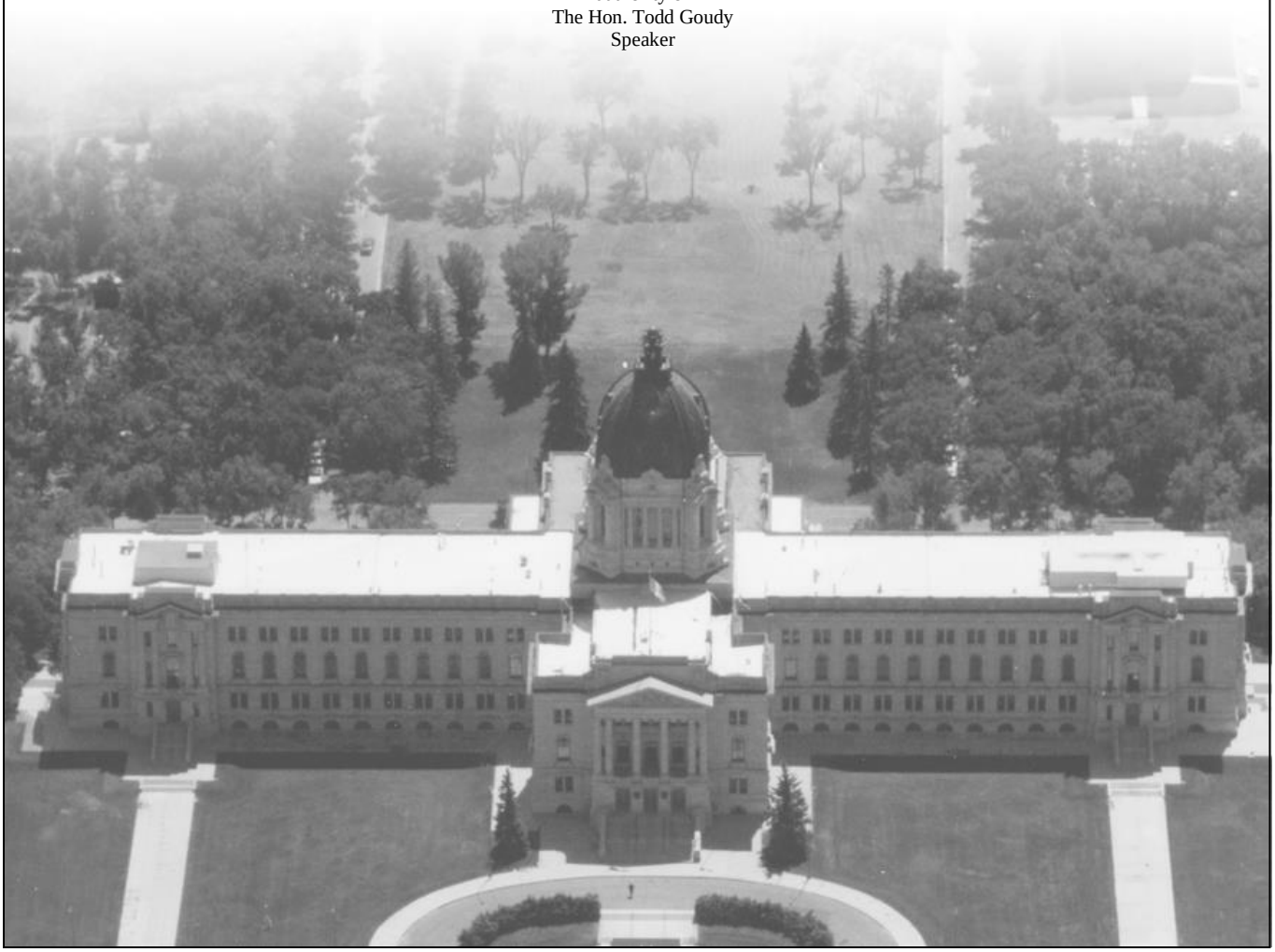
The Hon. Todd Goudy
Speaker



N.S. VOL. 66 **NO. 40A THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025, 10:00**

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
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Clerk Assistant — Danielle Humble-Selinger

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[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff: — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and good morning to all my colleagues. It's with great pleasure this morning that I introduce a former member. I see a couple of them there. One will be introduced a little bit later, but I'm going to begin with our good friend Rob Norris. Rob is joining us again here in the legislature.

And as everyone knows Rob wears many hats in the province. He's the CEO [chief executive officer] of Pinehouse Power. He's working with Bob Bahari at EnviroWay, and I understand they have an agreement coming forward with the Roughriders. That's a secret though, so we won't tell anybody. Curtis Berthelot, Pavement Scientific International, is relying on Rob.

And Rob does a lot of work with the U of S [University of Saskatchewan] and the U of R [University of Regina], and I understand that he's here today working with the PTRC [Petroleum Technology Research Centre]. So colleagues, let's once again welcome our former colleague to this his Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

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

Vicki Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to join in with the minister opposite in welcoming Rob Norris back to his Legislative Assembly, thank him for all the work that he's done in this space and also throughout the rest of the province of Saskatchewan. And I ask all members to join me in welcoming him back to his legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Cypress Hills.

Doug Steele: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to welcome my friend, the Hon. Fred Bradshaw is here today. He brought us down a fine meal again as he usually does. And he's the CEO of Bradshaw operations in northern Saskatchewan there. His new greenhouse has something starting, he was showing me that. And I just want to say one thing, you know, over the years that Fred has amazing butter tarts and brownies. My sugar levels have dropped. My diabetes is way better than it used to be, but it's still there. Thanks for all that good-tasting food there, Fred. But welcome to your legislature.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Mount Royal.

Trent Wotherspoon: — Thanks, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to join with the member opposite to welcome certainly Rob Norris, who's already been welcomed here to his Assembly, and then Fred Bradshaw as well. I think this is maybe the fourth or fifth time that I've introduced Fred or welcomed him to his Assembly. Of course Fred was a wonderful colleague, and you know, a good, strong representative and an amazing guy who would share his baking with members opposite as well, Mr. Speaker. One of the finest butter tarts you're ever going to find, Mr. Speaker.

And I guess to Fred I just say that, you know, for a lot of people as we head into this season — May long weekend; fishing opened on May 5th — this is a time of excitement for many, Mr. Speaker. For Fred, because we know his fishing skills, this is a time of disappointment, Mr. Speaker. But I ask all members to welcome Fred Bradshaw, one awesome guy and one terrible fisherman, to his Assembly.

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, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to my colleagues for that grace. I have actually three introductions this morning. The first is a school group from Moose Jaw who's just joined us in the west gallery.

In the west gallery we have 26 grade 8 students from Lindale School in Moose Jaw and they're joined by Ivy Sheward, who has graciously brought classes to this Assembly before, and we thank Ivy for that. She's also an active participant in the SSTI [Saskatchewan Social Sciences Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy], Mr. Speaker, and if you've figured out yet what the SSTI stands for, we'd really appreciate you sharing that. But in any event, thank you very much to Ms. Sheward. And Alanda Smith has also joined as a parent chaperone.

So I'm really looking forward to meeting these students from Lindale after session, and I would ask that all members please join me in welcoming them to this, their Legislative Assembly.

I also would like to introduce another student seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker. Joining us from the Czech Republic we have Emma Ticha. You should give us a wave, Emma. Emma is a University of Regina student who's in Regina for her studies and will be staying throughout the summer. And her family back home, I'm sure, is going to miss her, but we want to thank Emma for joining us here today at the Legislative Assembly and for being yet another wonderful student of one of our Saskatchewan institutions, Mr. Speaker.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, seated beside Emma is her professor at the University of Regina, who I have always known to be a student as well, Mr. Speaker. I met her 25 years ago when she was doing an Honours degree at the University of Saskatchewan. Since then she has done a master's degree and is now a doctoral student. She will in the fall have her doctorate of Education. And at that time I would be excited to introduce her as Dr. Tenielle

McLeod. But for the time being I will introduce her as my wife and the mother of my three amazing children.

She is a school board trustee, Mr. Speaker. And the Premier often speaks about the wonderful crop of individuals coming out of Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, and she certainly qualifies in that regard. She's a farm girl from Shellbrook, Mr. Speaker, and she holds our household together, supporting me and the kids in all that we do.

So I would like to ask my colleagues to please join me in welcoming my wife and my best friend, Tenielle McLeod, to this, her Legislative Assembly.

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

Nathaniel Teed: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I want to ask all members in the Assembly to give a very warm welcome to one Jason Hicks, who is sitting up in your gallery, Mr. Speaker.

Jason is no stranger to this Legislative Assembly. He served as my constituency assistant, before that served as the constituents' assistant for the member from Saskatoon Fairview, and before that the member from Saskatoon Meewasin before me.

And he served as my constituency assistant for about a year and a half, and then . . . I gave a much longer winded introduction last time when he was here, but I said greatness was thrust upon him. And he actually was seconded to serve as the president, interim president, of COPE [Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union] 397. So that's the union that represents our Saskatchewan NDP [New Democratic Party] caucus, our Saskatchewan NDP constituency assistants, as well as the folks, the good folks at our Crown corporation, SGI [Saskatchewan Government Insurance].

Since he was seconded he had successfully ran for that position and won the position of president of COPE 397. And so sadly he will not be returning to my office for a number of years, and I imagine that he'll be serving in that role for quite a while, Mr. Speaker.

So I just want to ask all members to welcome him. I want to thank him for the amazing work that he does representing all those folks in COPE 397 in the work that he does in our labour community here in Saskatchewan. So please join me in welcoming Jason Hicks to his Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Martensville-Blairmore.

Hon. Jamie Martens: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do have a few people in your gallery today, and starting with Sutter Danychuk. This young man has been an absolute delight to work with, and I know many members here know him as well. He's a super volunteer. And this young gentleman has worked in the provincial campaign, as well as the federal campaign, and now is my constituency president.

So anything that you need to know about politics, this guy knows it. He's definitely a blessing. He's here today with his family: his mother, Channone Danychuk, and George, his father.

And as well, as I'm still introducing, I would also like to introduce my youngest daughter, which is Arianna, and she's sitting in the top row. And she had stated that she wanted to come and she was a little jealous of her sister being able to be here and introduced the other day. And I said, well this is the last day, so she talked one of my best friends into driving her down to Regina so she could skip school and so she could be here today. Brilliant young lady.

She definitely . . . She's the drama queen. And it's a lot more than just drama queen, but it's because she's in drama and she absolutely loves it. Yeah, absolutely loves it. She really thoroughly enjoys her plays and all of the arts. So that's my artistic daughter.

So that is of course Arianna, Terry, Sutter, Channone, and George, and we'd like to welcome them to the legislature, please. Thank you.

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

Joan Pratchler: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce Greg Riehl. As Nursing Week is drawing to a close, maybe we saved the best for the last; I'm not so sure. But Greg Riehl has been a registered nurse for 34 years. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Arts in Professional Communications, specializing in intercultural and international communication. He's a pillar and a powerhouse and an advocate for Indigenous health care.

Living in Saskatchewan, he has worked in acute care, rural and remote nursing, and working with and for First Nations communities. For the past three years he's been working in northern Manitoba, making an impact on decreasing the effects of tuberculosis. He has a passion for research and continues to advocate for the vulnerable in his role as Chair of the board of directors for over 10 years at Regina's All Nations Hope Network. Please join with me in welcoming this powerhouse of nursing here in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

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

Michael Weger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd ask for leave for an extended introduction.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Michael Weger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if I need it or not. I can barely read my own handwriting here, Mr. Speaker. But to you and through you, I would like to welcome three guests seated up in your gallery. I have my wife, Cara, my daughter Teresa, and a friend of our family, my daughter's boyfriend, Quinn Mantei.

And so to you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to start by introducing Quinn Mantei. He's a Hockey Weyburn success story, Mr. Speaker.

Quinn has just finished his fourth season with the Brandon Wheat Kings in the Western Hockey League after serving last season as the team captain. Quinn has now decided, and I think most importantly, to further his education, Mr. Speaker. And he's accepted a spot with the Providence College Friars in Rhode Island, playing DI [Division I] college hockey in the NCAA [National Collegiate Athletic Association].

Quinn has received numerous accolades over his 250-game career with the Brandon Wheat Kings, Mr. Speaker, but I would suggest the most important one was being named the WHL [Western Hockey League] Scholastic Player of the Year. And that is most impressive and I often say I think he's too smart to be a hockey player. So I would ask all members to welcome Quinn Mantei to his Legislative Assembly and to wish him all the best as he furthers his education and his hockey career with Providence, Rhode Island.

And secondly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce my oldest daughter, Teresa Weger, to this, her legislature. Being that it is Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month and Teresa is affected by this disease, I felt she was deserving of a full introduction today.

Mr. Speaker, Teresa just celebrated her 20th birthday in March, and her mother and I are just so proud of the young lady she has become. After Teresa was diagnosed with CF [cystic fibrosis] at the age of two and a half, I started giving speeches at CF events where I would talk about my desire to teach my daughter how to ride a bike, drive a car, and be able to watch her graduate high school and fall in love.

We're so lucky, Mr. Speaker, we've been able to do that. And Teresa took it upon herself to carry on with those speaking engagements as well, Mr. Speaker. At the young age of eight, she was up in front of crowds of 300 people speaking, and she continues to volunteer for Cystic Fibrosis Canada. She's on the walk committee. The walk will be taking place later this month.

And she's a fighter, and the reason she looks so good and she's as healthy as she is is because she's very diligent on the efforts she takes to do her treatments and live a healthy lifestyle. And we're very proud. Later this month she will be recognized for her contributions as she will receive the King's coronation medal this month.

[10:15]

So I'll ask all members to join me in welcoming my wife, Cara, Teresa, and Quinn Mantei to this their Legislative Assembly.

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

Vicki Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the member opposite on behalf of the official opposition as the shadow minister of Health in welcoming Teresa to her legislature, and to thank her for all of the advocacy that she does in the cystic fibrosis community.

It's one thing to know that you could potentially benefit from something, but to take that and turn that into advocacy on behalf of others shows a true strength of character. So thank you for the work that you're doing. And on behalf of the official opposition I invite all members to join me in welcoming her to her Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

Hon. Terry Jenson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you this morning, it is . . . Summertime is fast approaching, and with that there's literally hundreds, if not thousands, of summer students taking jobs all around the province. And my office is no exception this year, Mr. Speaker.

In the west gallery at the very top with my senior admin Ariann Pscenica, is Reece Tastad. Reece is going into her fourth year of political studies and minoring in economics and also a certificate in politics and law. Reece has only been with our office a very short time, but she's already proven herself more than capable. And she's an absolute joy to have around the office and she's always got a smile on her face. And I would encourage my colleagues to drop by sometime during the summer months and visit Reece. And with that I'd like to welcome Reece to her Legislative Assembly.

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

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition and as the shadow minister for Parks, Culture and Sport I'd like to welcome Quinn Mantei to his Legislative Assembly. It's always great to have athletes in our province who proceed to move on to higher and higher levels of play. And we wish you well as you represent Saskatchewan and Canada at Providence, Rhode Island. So with that, I'd like everyone to welcome Quinn to his Legislative Assembly.

And while I'm on my feet, it also brings me great joy to welcome students and staff and parents from Georges Vanier Catholic School in Saskatoon Stonebridge. So you are the first group that I have ever been able to introduce that's from my riding. I also introduced students from Chief Mistawasis recently. In particular, I'd like to highlight the teachers Jordan Keehborn and Deb Johnson. Thank you for organizing this trip. I understand you have a few other stops while you're here today. Fortunately some of the yawns they got out of their system already, so when they go to the Science Centre that won't be so prominent. And parent chaperones, Juan Acevedo, Laura Diaz, and Carolyn Siemens, thank you for being here with us today.

And to the students, I really look forward to meeting with you. Some of you might have heard a rumour that there's ice cream. Fifty-two of you will get ice cream but we'll work on whether the kid in the Leafs sweater gets one. We'll see. That being said, please welcome these wonderful kids and the . . . Oh, and one more — Waylon. Waylon, could you give us a wave? Waylon knows the member from Eastview, and good luck to you in your 6 on 6 football season. And please welcome all these kids and parents to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Megan Patterson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two introductions today. To you and through you, I'd like to start by introducing Laura Mock. Laura is the director of the Conexus

Cultivator. The Cultivator is an innovation hub that is dedicated to growing the Saskatchewan tech ecosystem and accelerating global tech innovation and adoption in the province. The Cultivator creates jobs, generates revenue, and attracts investment to our province.

Under Laura's leadership the Cultivator has seen a 30 per cent increase in successful start-up launches. Laura was recently a finalist in the Regina YWCA Breaking Barriers category. Please join me in welcoming Laura to this, her Legislative Assembly.

Secondly, to you and through you, I'd like to introduce Shalini. Shalini is from Punjab, India, and she was a student of mine at Sask Polytech as she completed the project management program.

Shalini was in my organizational behaviour class and she actually has an M.B.A. [Master of Business Administration] in human resources. And there were many days I wished she was actually teaching it, I will be honest. She is just a lovely person and an exceptional example of the great talent that is in our province through the international students that come here. So please join me in welcoming Shalini to this, her Legislative Assembly.

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

Aleana Young: — Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition I'd like to take the opportunity to join with the member opposite in these introductions and start by welcoming Shalini to the Legislative Assembly. We talk about it a lot in this Assembly on both sides. Saskatchewan is one of the most entrepreneurial provinces — I would submit the most — in Canada. And we're so grateful that you're living here and sharing your expertise not just with the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow but with the whole province. And we wish you all the success in helping to build this wonderful province in your life here.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd be remiss if I didn't introduce Laura Mock. It was noted she's the director of Cultivator, an amazing institution here in Saskatchewan. Another real strength of this province, of course, is its strong culture of co-ops and the credit union sector. She has a background at SGI; in VC [venture capital]; in building, attracting, maintaining tech start-ups.

And in addition to that as I've come to learn, largely through the member from Regina Douglas Park, she's an absolutely incredible mom. Her daughter Ellie, I believe recently went to nationals with her volleyball team, is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Medal, and most importantly — at least to the member from Regina Douglas Park — is the most incredible babysitter and queen of crafting, as I understand, for that member's children.

So on behalf of our entire team, but in particular the member from Regina Douglas Park, I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming Laura Mock to this, her Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Daryl Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to welcome a couple of people I met last evening, along with the member from White City-Qu'Appelle and the Minister of Environment. We were able to attend the Lockie ranch branding. I would say participate but I think we're a little late to the show and they had all hands on deck. So my communications MA [ministerial assistant] Shelby Lockie, her grandparents are here today in the west gallery. So Keith and Karmie Lockie, please, welcome to your Saskatchewan legislature. Thank you.

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

Carla Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the last day of the spring sitting and we've had the opportunity to welcome so many guests, especially so many young leaders and future leaders in our province.

It's my honour today to rise and introduce one more, seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, one Demetry Bonis. After meeting Demetry recently, I got the most lovely letter from him saying that, you know, I hope this finds you well, reminding me that we met at the Evening In Greece and that we had a photo taken together. But, Mr. Speaker, I certainly had not forgot him.

This is a young man who is now 11 years old, who was very sharply dressed at that event, but also incredibly sharp intellect and with a real interest in politics, which he credits to a trip that he took when he was eight years old with his family to Ottawa. While this is not his first visit to the Assembly, this is his first opportunity to watch question period and the proceedings here today.

I hope that what you see today, Demetry, continues to light a flame of interest in politics, and I certainly appreciate you coming to watch proceedings today. I hope we get a chance to talk and maybe answer some questions afterwards. And I certainly appreciate you bringing your mom, Georgia, here with you today.

On behalf of the official opposition, I invite all members to join me in welcoming Demetry and his mom, Georgia, to this, their Legislative Assembly.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Kindersley-Biggar.

Moose Hide Campaign Aims to End Gender-Based Violence

Kim Gartner: — Good morning, Mr. Speaker, and fellow members of the Legislative Assembly. The Moose Hide Campaign is a day of reflection, commitment, and action to end violence against women and children, and to stand in solidarity with Indigenous communities.

Wearing a moose hide pin is a small but powerful act. It signals a personal pledge to honour the women and children in our lives, to speak out against gender-based violence, and to create a culture of safety and dignity for all.

The Moose Hide Campaign is a movement that started in 2011 to engage men and boys in ending violence against women and

children. Now a nationwide movement aimed at ending violence against women and children, our government stands with those taking part in the Moose Hide Campaign, Mr. Speaker.

Our government will continue the important work of preventing and addressing gender-based violence because the women and girls, and all residents of our province, deserve to live safe, healthy, and prosperous lives. Thank you.

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

Sharing and Celebrating at the King George Community Association Winter Fair

Kim Breckner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 1st, I attended the King George Community Association annual Winter Fair in Saskatoon. There were wagon rides, face painting, indoor games and crafts, outdoor rink games, hot dogs, hot drinks, raffles, and much more — all free of charge. The highlight seemed to be the dozens of cardboard boxes laid out in the centre of the gym floor. It's incredible what a child's imagination can do with something so basic.

The warm temperatures must have helped to bring people out, as it was the highest attendance yet with over 200 people stopping by. I didn't stop serving hot dogs all day, and city councillor Timon had to run out for buns several times during that day.

Mr. Speaker, events like the King George Community Association annual carnival remind us of the importance of supporting and celebrating our local communities. They strengthen the bonds that unite us and provide opportunities for connection, joy, and shared experiences.

I want to extend my heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this event possible and to all those who attended. It was an honour to be part of such a special day, and I look forward to continuing to support and celebrate the incredible work being done in our community.

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

Saskatchewan Students Achieve Outstanding Results at Model UN Assembly

Kevin Kasun: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 2nd and 3rd, Prince Albert students from the St. Mary High School participated in the Winnipeg Model United Nations Assembly where they achieved outstanding results. Their success is a testament to their hard work and to the strength of educational programs in our province.

Out of the more than 60 delegations from across Western Canada and northern Ontario, one of our teams received the prestigious Rais Khan Award for diplomatic delegation, a first for Prince Albert. The award was presented to Esther Akinjobi and Umer Hashim, who represented New Zealand.

The second team, representing Bangladesh, was Jannie Kemp and Michael Edet. They received an honourable mention, placing them amongst the top three delegations. Rémi Joncas and Shae Lynn Gareau, both teachers from St. Mary High School, had the privilege of coaching these exceptional students.

Additionally, another Saskatchewan delegation from the Premier's and my hometown of Shellbrook earned the Bert Friesen Award for best delegation. That is a remarkable accomplishment in our region.

Mr. Speaker, one of the students was quoted as saying, "We had to go and represent our province to win. We have to bring it. We have to bring our Saskatchewan intelligence." Good quote, Esther. Can't sum it up better than that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Regina Prairie Fire Ringette Team Prepares for European Games

Joan Pratchler: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm a fan of all sports, and I fiercely applaud the resilience and the strength that women bring to the game.

Today I'm delighted to recognize an energetic ringette team seated in your gallery, the majority of which reside in my constituency of Regina Rochdale. They are the Prairie Fire. They're an under 16 ringette team of 17 female players and five female coaches who represent all areas of Regina and our neighbouring communities of Pilot Butte and Emerald Park.

Over the past two years, Regina Prairie Fire has worked collaboratively towards the goal of travelling to Europe this summer where they'll play some exhibition games in Sweden, the Czech Republic, and ultimately in the Lions Cup in Finland.

[10:30]

This team has devoted countless hours and travelled many miles across Saskatchewan and Alberta and Manitoba to play league games and in tournaments. Many additional hours have also been spent planning and fundraising, and on the weekend of April 4th to 6th of 2025, they hosted eight teams in the under 16 B Spring Ring tournament in Balgonie.

While unable to join the team, the team is grateful and would like to also recognize Canada's Cadence Howe, who provided invaluable knowledge and expertise of the sport by serving as their goalie coach over the past year and a half.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the floor to extend their best wishes to Regina Prairie Fire as they proudly represent the sport of ringette on behalf of the city of Regina, province of Saskatchewan, and the remarkable country of Canada as they travel throughout Europe.

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

Porcupine Opportunities Program Supports Adults with Disabilities

Chris Beaudry: — Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding work of the Porcupine Opportunities Program, a

community-based organization located in Porcupine Plain that provides vital support and services to adults with intellectual and physical disabilities.

POP [Porcupine Opportunities Program] operates group homes and offers vocational training that empowers individuals to participate meaningfully in their community. One of the most remarkable aspects of their program is the woodwork shop, where participants build core boxes and racks for the mining exploration industry. While the majority of their products are shipped across Saskatchewan, their reach extends well beyond our borders, with orders sent to Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, BC [British Columbia], the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon.

Mr. Speaker, the '24-25 fiscal year was an exceptional one for POP with sales exceeding 1.1 million. In addition to core boxes and racks, POP also produces dunnage for Weyerhaeuser in Hudson Bay, along with planters, benches, survey stakes, and a range of specialty wood products.

This program offers more than just products. It provides meaningful, inclusive employment and builds pride and purpose in the lives of its participants. I ask all members to join me in celebrating the Porcupine Opportunities Program for their incredible contributions to Saskatchewan. Thank you.

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

Saskatoon and District Labour Council Honours Those Who Make a Difference

Nathaniel Teed: — Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, February 8th many members on this side of the House joined the Saskatoon and District Labour Council to celebrate a milestone year. The year 2025 marked the 65th annual general meeting of the SDLC [Saskatoon and District Labour Council] and the 25th anniversary of the Labour Community Service Award banquet.

It was an evening filled with reflection, recognition, and celebration made even more special as it coincided with the 10th anniversary of the Supreme Court affirming the right to strike in Canada.

Since 1991 the SDLC, in partnership with the United Way of Saskatoon and area, has hosted the Labour Community Service Award banquet to recognize outstanding unionized workers who go above and beyond to make Saskatoon a better place to live and work. These individuals exemplify the values of the SDLC and the labour movement — dedication, solidarity, and community service.

To commemorate this 25th anniversary, the SDLC and the United Way brought together the past 24 recipients, along with their families, to honour their achievements. Each of these individuals has played a vital role in strengthening their community, demonstrating the true spirit of union activism. It was a night of appreciation, gratitude, and inspiration, a testament to the lasting impact of labour's contributions in Saskatoon. Here's to many more years of recognizing those who make a difference.

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

The Legislative Poet Returneth

Michael Weger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With 90 seconds on the clock
I hope that I don't blow it,
as I try to secure my spot
as your legislative poet.

We started spring sitting
with the only balanced provincial budget,
while the Opposition Leader
did her best in an attempt to judge it.

The shadow Finance minister
suggested he could do so much better,
as he recorded a video of himself
plugging a paper shredder.

Our ministers consulted
with officials at SUMA and SARM,
to help them address issues
in the city and on the farm.

Working as a team
we have accomplished a lot you will see,
with the biggest announcement
that our province is carbon tax free.

This is not a government
that will pooh-pooh or dilly-dally.
Their words, not mine, Mr. Speaker.

With legislation addressing affordability,
derelict buildings, and street weapon possession,
many election promises have been kept
by the Sask Party this first session.

Emergency motions have been denied
except for one,
but having to talk out the clock
didn't look like that much fun.

To the minority opposition, don't be frustrated.
Consider this instead,
you did help us set a record for the number of times
the word "hockey" has been said.

If the NDP think they will get a break from us for a few months,
well I hate to be a bummer,
because they can expect to see our Sask Party smiling faces
everywhere in Saskatchewan this summer.

Speaker Goudy: — Would I be able to request leave for an introduction that I had missed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Speaker Goudy: — First of all, Ivy Sheward with the SSTI. You'll be stepping down from the steering committee, and I just wanted to say thank you for your hard work and all the best in your future.

As well as I have one staff member here today that I was going to mention later. And I thought I could bring that up, but now would be a better time. If you were at the Office of the Speaker there's a locked door because we have all three of the staff here, but one of them specifically has served in this building for a long time and is going to be retiring, so this will be her last day serving during session.

And so, Sheila, we all appreciate and know who you are. And for me, I still say that just about anybody can fill a position so long as you have the right support staff, and in my case that's been true. So in you three sitting up in the gallery, we have a great crew that have supported well.

And so Sheila, all the best for you and your family and your future. Thanks for all you've done for this Assembly and for this building and for this province. And I'll mention the other two later on, but God bless you, Sheila.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

National Unity and Management of Provincial Economy

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, this spring sitting will end in just a few short hours and when it does, the Premier will have broken a major promise concerning our country and our economic future. This is a premier who promised a free vote on our bill to keep Saskatchewan in Canada but has blocked every attempt to actually vote on that bill.

Now while the Premier's political allies continue to push separatism, even when we know it could cost jobs and head offices and investments here in this province, my question is this: is the Premier really going to stand down to separatists and hurt our economy in the process?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, on the last day of session I think it's a good time for us in this province to take stock of what is happening in Saskatchewan. In our province today we have the strongest economy in the nation of Canada. In our province we have the best job creation record, the lowest unemployment rate in the nation of Canada, the strongest wholesale trade growth, just released this morning. We remain the most affordable place to live in the nation. We have the only balanced budget, and we are the only carbon tax-free province in Canada, Mr. Speaker.

Policies certainly matter, Mr. Speaker, and it's policies that have been put forward for the last decade and a half that have ensured that Saskatchewan is the best place in Canada to live. That's why we are the best place to work. We are the best province in Canada to raise your family, to build a home, to start a business, Mr. Speaker, and to build a life.

Mr. Speaker, we are not going to let all of the chatter about separation from the NDP in any way interrupt the trajectory and the opportunity and the success that Saskatchewan people are seeing.

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

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, it's the trajectory of that Premier that we're worried about, the Premier with the worst full-time job creation record over the course of his premiership, and the second-worst GDP [gross domestic product] increase, when it comes to all of the other provinces, during his term.

Mr. Speaker, we started this session in the middle of an existential threat from Donald Trump. The Premier sat on his hands for months, and when he did finally find his feet, he had the weakest and meekest response in the entire country. Now as the session comes to a close we face a rising threat of separatism, and the Premier again sits on his hands.

Mr. Speaker, the future of our economy is at stake. The future of our country is at stake. And the Premier could throw water on the smouldering flames of separatism today. My question is, why won't he?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — 132 times the opposition members have raised separation on the floor of this Assembly, seven press conferences on separation, one fundraising email to their membership.

Mr. Speaker, at least years ago when Canada actually was going through a referendum, then premier Roy Romanow at least had the common sense to keep his secret separation committee secret. He didn't bring it to the floor of the Assembly. Again I say, in spite of all of the NDP's talk of separation, talk of . . .

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Hon. Scott Moe: — In spite of all the NDP's talk of separation, Mr. Speaker, here's what is happening in our province today. As I said, we have the strongest economy in the nation. We have the best job creation record in Canada, the lowest unemployment rate, the strongest wholesale growth rate. We have the only balanced budget. And we are the only carbon tax-free province in the nation of Canada, Mr. Speaker.

That's why Saskatchewan is the best place to live, to raise a family, and to build a career, Mr. Speaker.

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

Government Contract with American Firm and Management of Provincial Economy

Carla Beck: — I'm not sure the Premier realizes what a tell it is when he reaches for those tired talking points and reaches back decades to distract from his failures. But you know what, Mr. Speaker? They have had a lot of practice when it comes to failures.

During this session alone they cut funding to health care and

education, and continued to tax families on groceries and children's clothing . . . You want to have something to say there, Minister? And yesterday we revealed that they did all of this, they did all of this to Saskatchewan people while continuing to pump money to a firm that funds campaigns for Donald Trump, JD Vance, Marco Rubio, and more — those who are seeking to break our country.

Is this government really going to continue to cut health care and education while they defend funnelling money to Donald Trump and his buddies?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, the increase to health care in this year's balanced budget was $485 million. The members opposite campaigned on a $100 million increase. That would be a $385 million cut offered by the NDP to the people of the province of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, $485 million increase to ensure that Saskatchewan people can have access to a medical health care professional and access to a timely surgery.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to our international engagement, whether that be with our largest trading partner in United States of America or our trade offices around the world, it's working. It's working with the latest economic metrics that are out just this month, Mr. Speaker.

This province and the people of this province can be proud as they are leading the nation in economic growth, Mr. Speaker, whether that be GDP or export-value growth. We have the best job creation in the nation of Canada, the lowest unemployment rate in the nation. We remain the most affordable place in Canada to live. Mr. Speaker, our Deputy Premier introduced the only balanced budget in the nation. And policies truly matter because it's this province that is the only carbon tax-free province in Canada.

Speaker Goudy: — I'm going to ask that during the question we all listen careful. And so I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Carla Beck: — No surprise, Mr. Speaker — more excuses, more backward thinking, more rhetoric that belies the fact that they are so completely out of touch with the reality of most people in this province.

[10:45]

Now it seems like the Premier cannot find the courage to stand up to separatists, and he doesn't understand why funnelling money to Donald Trump is wrong. So I'll say this: clearly the people of Saskatchewan deserve so much better. They deserve a government that's focused on creating jobs, lowering costs for families, fixing health care, and setting it up so that Saskatchewan children can thrive.

They deserve a government that is focused on the future, and that is exactly what the Saskatchewan NDP team is going to deliver for them. Why would the Premier and his caucus rather focus on themselves?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — In response to rhetoric, the rhetoric I've seen come to the floor of this Assembly is a $485 million increase in the health care budget being referred to as a cut, Mr. Speaker, relative to the $100 million commitment by the members opposite, which would be a cut from where we are today.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to rhetoric brought to the floor of this Assembly — still not retracted — there was claims that there was infants that were being shipped to the United States or to North Dakota. Simply not the case. Not retracted by the members opposite. That's rhetoric brought to the floor of this Assembly, and more importantly, Mr. Speaker, it's incorrect rhetoric that's brought to the people of the province of Saskatchewan by Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Mr. Speaker, we very much are focused on not only where this province is going tomorrow, but how we are going to build on the successes that we are seeing in Saskatchewan today with the strongest economic growth in the nation of Canada. Saskatchewan people can be proud of that. The lowest unemployment rate in the nation of Canada. Saskatchewan people can be proud of that, Mr. Speaker.

We remain the most affordable place to live in Canada, Mr. Speaker. We have a balanced budget, the only one in the nation. And again and last, Mr. Speaker, because of the policies of this government, we have no carbon tax in the province of Saskatchewan.

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

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A complete non-answer from that Premier during his last answer of this session's question period, and from a man who can talk real loud, but he is still responsible for the second-worst economic growth in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, this government is entrusted with money provided to it by the people of Saskatchewan. This is public money, and this government should be accountable to us about how it is spent. To the Minister of Finance: for the record, how much money has gone from the Government of Saskatchewan to Nelson Mullins so that firm could then fill Donald Trump's war chest while he campaigned on job-killing tariffs?

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

Hon. Warren Kaeding: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While the opposition is focused on who donates what to where and when, this government has been focused on building . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — I'm going to ask the opposition that we . . . I've allowed a lot of talk, a lot of chatter. We'll stop that now, and I'll ask the Minister of Trade and Export to continue on.

Hon. Warren Kaeding: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This government has been focused on building the economy, and the results have shown — strongest economy in Canada; the best job creation record in Canada; lowest unemployment rate in Canada;

strongest wholesale sales growth; urban housing starts first in the country; most affordable place to live in Canada.

What else is it leading in, Mr. Speaker? Private capital investment, ranking first in the nation. Province hit one and a quarter million people March 1st, an effort that that opposition said would never happen, Mr. Speaker.

We are going to continue to focus on building the economy because that's what our constituents are asking for.

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

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I speak for so many people in this province when I say there are far better ways we could be spending our public dollars than on helping Donald Trump, JD Vance, Marco Rubio win elections. The Sask Party won't tell us how much of our own money went towards funding the MAGA [Make America Great Again] movement, a movement hell-bent on destroying the Canadian economy.

So given this, I have to ask the obvious question, the elephant in the room if you will, Mr. Speaker: how many Donald Trump supporters are there on that side of the House?

Speaker Goudy: — How many Donald Trump supporters are on that side of the room? I don't see how that has relevance for the province of Saskatchewan, so I'm going to ask that you move on to another question.

I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Health Care Resources in Southeast Saskatchewan

Vicki Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, they paid millions of dollars to fund MAGA in Washington while cutting health care here in Saskatchewan.

There are so many places where these dollars could be going in health care. Just look at southeast Saskatchewan where people have been calling for a CT [computerized tomography] scanner at the Moosomin hospital for years. A prominent local columnist wrote this about the need for a CT scanner in Moosomin:

> The provincial government has no good reason to deny the health care foundation's request. If it will save lives, we should have this piece of equipment as soon as possible. We shouldn't be second-class citizens.

Does the Minister of Health know who wrote these words?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I can tell the member opposite that I've engaged quite a few times with the community of Moosomin and the Community Builders Alliance and the municipal leaders in that community.

Moosomin's a very engaged community. We have a very successful community oncology program in that facility, not to mention a resident program where we are training more doctors for the southeast corner of the province. Mr. Speaker, we're continuing engagement with the community of Moosomin, speaking about a CT scanner and enhancing services in the Southeast Integrated Care Centre, Mr. Speaker.

But, Mr. Speaker, this is a government that invests in southeastern Saskatchewan. I think about the addictions facilities that we've worked with Emmanuel Health on in Estevan. I think about even nearly the $25 million being invested in this budget year on the Weyburn hospital, a new facility that will support the whole southeast corner of the province, Mr. Speaker. This is a government that always will continue investing in health care in this province.

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

Vicki Mowat: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the person who wrote these words is the current MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] for Moosomin, and he wrote them back in 2021. Since then multiple Sask Party cabinet ministers have promised a CT scanner for Moosomin, but none have delivered.

People in the Southwest deserve access to the care they need when they need it, but they can't because of the Sask Party cuts to health care. I'll ask the minister the same question from the member for Moosomin in the Southeast: "Why in the world would the provincial government not approve that scanner?"

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, I just want to recognize our member from Moosomin-Montmartre does an incredible job as the Legislative Secretary for Health, not only representing the needs and concerns of his constituency but touring facilities right across the province and engaging with front-line health care workers in all regions of the province.

When it comes to Moosomin, Mr. Speaker, we're continuing to engage with that community. The Saskatchewan Health Authority recently had a team in the centre, evaluating the space, understanding what's available for space. Mr. Speaker, it's my commitment that myself; the member for Moosomin-Montmartre; and my counterpart, the Minister for Mental Health and Addictions and Rural and Remote Health, will continue engaging with the community in Moosomin to see what options are available to improve access to care for patients in that part of the province.

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

Vicki Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, people across this province are tired of these same old talking points from the Sask Party government. The Minister of Justice promised a CT scanner for Moosomin last fall. Steven Bonk promised a CT scanner back in April before he quit to run federally. The whole thing is a mess, and the Sask Party has dropped the ball.

This is a direct quote from the Vice-Chair of the health foundation in Moosomin:

> Between Hindley, the former Rural and Remote Health

minister, and McLeod, something was lost. Because Hindley was on board, and then all of a sudden McLeod is the Rural Health minister and he didn't seem to know anything about it.

Why did the Minister of Justice drop the ball on this important project?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — Mr. Speaker, I've said it twice already. I'll say it a third time. Discussions and engagement are ongoing with the community of Moosomin. We have an excellent MLA from that community, the member for Moosomin-Montmartre, who continues to advocate for his community. We're in ongoing discussions with the community. And let me just say, the community of Moosomin has been an important partner on so many important projects, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this is an opposition that says that they're focused on the future, but the reality is it sounds a lot more reminiscent of what the past is — closing facilities, cutting services, Mr. Speaker. This is a government that is always going to work to improve access for patients in this province.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Mount Royal.

Provincial Budget and Management of Provincial Economy

Trent Wotherspoon: — You know, Mr. Speaker, they have no credibility when it comes to health care and they have no credibility when it comes to our provincial finances.

Just look at oil price in this budget. Every $1 drop in the oil price means $18 million less in revenue if sustained through the year. This budget that government pegged oil prices at a very rosy $71 a barrel, way higher than Alberta just next door. The price today is $61. That's a $180 million hit to their so-called $12 million surplus, if that price holds.

Those surplus claims, as everyone knows, are nonsense. Will the Finance minister give us the straight goods on how big their deficit is?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, we're about six weeks into the current fiscal year. The last time the member asked a question like this, we were eight days in and he wanted to rewrite the entire budget.

Mr. Speaker, oil prices have fallen and oil prices being low are going to have a detrimental effect on our budget. But this happens during the course of a fiscal year. That's why we have first-quarter update, mid-year update, third-quarter update, Mr. Speaker. We will keep the people of this province advised.

But, Mr. Speaker, here's what this budget has done for the people of Saskatchewan. It's made life more affordable because of income tax cuts and the only carbon tax-free province in the country, Mr. Speaker.

On top of that, what's it done for our economy, Mr. Speaker? This budget, and the 16 or 17 before it, have given us the lowest unemployment rate in the country, the best job creation record in the country, the most affordable place to live in Canada. And, Mr. Speaker, the list goes on.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Mount Royal.

Trent Wotherspoon: — It didn't take long to make the assessment of this budget, Mr. Speaker. Like year after year they claim surplus, only of course for the results to roll in and massive deficit after deficit. This budget on many fronts just isn't worth the paper that it's written on. A $432 million hole that's not accounted for in the books, a potential $180 million hit because of their reckless budgeting on the oil price. That totals over $600 million, $612 million in unaccounted revenue.

Now there's only one way that this government could balance this budget — either massive cuts or, well, more surprise tax hikes from that government once again, Mr. Speaker.

I can't believe that Finance minister stands here and continues to pretend he's got a balanced budget. Does the Minister of Finance really believe that 12 minus 612 equals balance? Cut the nonsense; cut the spin. Give us the straight goods on our finances.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Jim Reiter: — Mr. Speaker, if the member opposite was listening on budget day when I delivered the address, I said a number of things could impact the budget — including tariffs — detrimentally. In this case it's the drop in oil prices will have a detrimental effect on the budget.

But the member opposite wants to give math lessons. That's great, Mr. Speaker. I would point out to him, he just talked about deficit after deficit. Last year, the last fiscal that we have complete year on record, Mr. Speaker, the '23-24 fiscal year, we had a $180 million surplus. The member might want to look it up.

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

Overdose Deaths and Treatment for Addictions

Betty Nippi-Albright: — Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan has an overdose crisis. At committee I introduced a motion calling on the government to declare the overdose crisis a public health emergency. The Sask Party immediately voted it down.

This province has seen 2,000 deaths in five years. Every last one of those deaths was preventable. Can the minister explain to the House how much worse must it get to be declared a public health emergency by this Sask Party government?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

[11:00]

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the

member opposite for the question. At the beginning of her question she talked about a motion she brought forward. The member opposite knows full well what we were there to discuss at that committee meeting, and we did the work of the committee that day, Mr. Speaker.

With regards to the issues of overdoses that are happening within our province, this government is moving towards a recovery-oriented system of care. We are adding seats, spaces, and help for people struggling with addictions, Mr. Speaker. That's a commitment that we've made. Of the 500 seats that we committed to, we're already at 264, and we're adding more spaces all the time, Mr. Speaker. And we will continue to do that work for the people of Saskatchewan.

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

Betty Nippi-Albright: — Mr. Speaker, that minister had an opportunity to declare a state of emergency in this province. Thousands are dying. Our front-line staff are stretched thin as they respond to a record-high number of overdoses. In May, from May 9th to the 11th, the Saskatoon Fire Department responded to 30 overdoses, 17 of which took place on the 11th.

That minister is failing to provide support to our province which is fighting to keep up. What does the minister have to say to all the people fighting to prevent those overdoses day in and day out?

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

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would say thank you. Thank you for being out there on the streets. Thank you for being outreach teams. Thank you for being first responders and taking care of those individuals.

Mr. Speaker, the root cause of this is illicit drugs, illicit drugs that are so dangerous for these individuals. And if the NDP had their way like the MLA for Nutana has said in this House . . . She said illicit drugs are necessary to legalize. Are you kidding me, Mr. Speaker?

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please. Member from Meewasin, please.

Minister. And before that . . . Well next question. I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Supports for Education and Federal Funding

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, every day this week our side has presented petitions calling on this government to ensure that no jobs are lost as a result of the federal government's cuts to Jordan's principle funding.

Students in our schools are already not getting their needs met, and the loss of these Jordan's-principle-funded EAs [educational assistant] is only going to make that situation worse. First Nations students in Saskatchewan are going to be the ones paying the price for this federal cut. And it's time for the provincial government to step up to the plate and ensure that no one loses their jobs, and no child loses the support that they need in school.

Will the Minister of Education finally act and ensure that none of these supports for our kids are cut?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And as we've talked about this issue before, this is an important issue facing our schools. Education is a shared priority and we are disappointed that the federal government has made these changes to how they apply Jordan's principle. The cuts have been made by the federal government, Mr. Speaker.

I would say this, that the minister that was responsible for that decision, the federal minister at the time is now the new Minister of Jobs and Families. This is one of the items that I would want to reach out and speak to her.

Mr. Speaker, lots of talk from the critic for Finance there for the opposition there. And I'll tell you what, their answer to everything is to backfill every federal cut that comes this way, whether it's the Jordan's principle, whether it's the shortfall of funding to the federal child care agreement. We'll take no lessons from those members opposite when it comes to negotiating agreements, Mr. Speaker.

The only experience that they have is their federal cousins signing the supply-and-confidence agreement. We saw how that turned out for them in the last election, Mr. Speaker. Their leader lost his seat. Their leader is stepping down. They've lost official party status. It's a cautionary tale for those members opposite, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — Last day of session and we were just about there. Last day of session. Order, please. Order, please. You can visit afterwards.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Sean Wilson: — I wish to order questions no. 53 to 67.

Speaker Goudy: — Questions 53 to 67 are ordered. Why is the member on his feet?

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Mr. Speaker, I seek leave to make a farewell statement.

Speaker Goudy: — Leave has been sought by the member to make a farewell statement. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

End-of-Session Acknowledgements

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As this session comes to a close, I would like to offer some thanks to everyone in this Assembly for their hard work over the last couple of months.

First I would like to thank the Opposition House Leader, the member from Regina Douglas Park, for her collaboration in making sure that the scheduling works for both sides of this Assembly, Mr. Speaker. I really appreciate working with her as we navigate the legislative agenda and navigating through the wide variety of moving parts that happens around this place.

I would also like to thank both of the Whips, the Government Whip and the Opposition Whip, Mr. Speaker. We appreciate all the running around and the coordinating that they both do. It's not an easy role, that's for certain, Mr. Speaker, and it often requires adjustments on the fly, a lot of communication on very short notice. So we certainly want to thank both the member from Canora-Pelly and the member from Regina South Albert for all of the work that they do.

I would also like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and everyone surrounding your office. Being the referee in this place certainly isn't the least difficult role, and it requires a great deal of patience, wisdom, and support from those around you. So we offer you, Mr. Speaker, our deepest thanks for everything that you and your team do for this Assembly.

And of course I must thank the amazing building staff who work hard year-round, Mr. Speaker, ensuring that this grand place has great work happening within it. Our appreciation also goes out to the maintenance team, the janitorial crew, the security, the LDSU [legislative district security unit], cafeteria staff, the Legislative Assembly Service, broadcasting services, and Hansard, Mr. Speaker. So many others who work tirelessly behind the scenes making sure that this building is operational. Thank you so much to all of those individuals for all that they do, Mr. Speaker.

I also want to thank our Premier for his leadership and for the advocacy during these unprecedented times, Mr. Speaker. We all owe him a great debt of gratitude for the work that he does each and every day serving all of the people of Saskatchewan.

And finally I want to acknowledge and thank every member on both sides of this House, Mr. Speaker. We don't always agree, but we are all here for the same reason, and that is to serve the people of Saskatchewan. It's not easy spending a lot of time away from our families, which many of us do while we are here, and it's always important to remember the support that we receive from back home while we're doing this work. We could not do it without our families and our friends, and we thank them sincerely, Mr. Speaker.

So with that, I will finish by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable summer spent with family and friends and of course with the constituents of our great province. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Deputy Opposition House Leader.

MOTIONS

Second Reading of Bill 604

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a moment here I'll also be seeking leave to make a final statement, a farewell statement. But before I do that I'm going to move one last time — give this one last try — move, 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 consider second readings, Bill No. 604, *The Referendum and Plebiscite (Keep Saskatchewan in Canada) Amendment Act*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has requested leave to move her motion. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Opposition Deputy House Leader.

Meara Conway: — Mr. Speaker, I would also seek leave to make a statement.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has sought leave to make a statement. Is that granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

End-of-Session Acknowledgements

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As is custom, I'd like to join with the Government House Leader in making a couple of statements before we wrap up this session.

I want to start by thanking you, Mr. Speaker, in your still relatively new role. I think it was . . . You've made it no secret that you were initially reluctant to take on this role, but we thank you very much for your service. You've earned a reputation among all members of this House of being caring and kind to all, and so we thank you for your continued service in this role. I know it's not an easy role, and we thank you for that, Mr. Speaker.

I also want to thank your team, and especially Sheila Sterling who we just heard today is retiring. So thank you, Sheila. Thank you very much for your many years of service. And also to Danica and Nulee who are always so, so kind and hospitable when any of us have business in the Speaker's office.

I want to thank the Pages. All those who sit at the Clerk table: Iris Lang, of course, and her team Kathy, Rob, Danielle, Miranda, and others, thank you for your service. The last couple of years have not been without events, especially for that team, Mr. Speaker. It's been an eventful couple of years, and we want to

thank them for their service.

Thanks to the Sergeant-at-Arms, Deputy John Ford, and Lyall as well. Linda and the cafeteria crew, special shout-out to them. The member from Regina Mount Royal is especially fond of the omelettes there. He wanted me to put that on the record.

The team at the Legislative Library, Melissa and her team, Liza and Janet. Leslie, Michelle, Shana, Andy, Kate, Kim, Alicia, Rowena, James, Amanda at reference and circulation services. Catherine, Gina, Ashley, Michele, Sasha, Angela in support services. I'm sorry if I've left anyone out. But we love the library team over on this side, and I'm sure all members do, Mr. Speaker.

The team at member services, Shannon and everyone, thank you. Cindy, Kieran, Lorena, and others. I know they get very sick of seeing us, especially right around late March. Cindy and her team in financial services. Levy Bay in payroll and his team. The Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel, Marie. And of course, the legal assistant there, Colette, who's lovely.

Really all the folks in parliamentary support, the folks in IT [information technology] and HR [human resources]. Kari Olson and the incredible folks in Hansard, of course. Ed and his team in broadcast. All those in parliamentary education. Dani and the entire district security unit. The commissionaires, the dapper gentlemen who greet us every morning, afternoon, and sometimes evening out in the rotunda.

I want to take a moment to also thank our staff in our caucus office. One of the nice things about what's happened since the last election is we've got a few more resources in our opposition caucus office, Mr. Speaker, and that's been really nice. We have a new chief of staff, Jeremy Nolais, who has set a real punishing pace. I want to extend a special thanks to Mitch Bonokoski who's a steady co-pilot in all things House-related and many other things of course. Jocelyn Adema, who's also fairly new to our office and just a wonderful addition. Aryn and Cathlia in Saskatoon; Adel, who's manning the desk when you come into our caucus office; Zoé and Aiden, crackerjack researchers for real, Mr. Speaker; Kelsey, who's on stakeholder relations; Landen, Chris, and Logan in our comm shop.

And then we had a couple of people help us out here and there over the course of this session. So I want to give a special shout-out to Donna, Cameron, Steven, Eric, and others. I also want to thank all of our CAs [constituency assistant]. I think I speak for all members of this House when I say that they are absolutely invaluable in the work that we do.

I want to extend a special thanks to our Leader of the Opposition, the member for Regina Lakeview. The pace that she keeps up has been absolutely unrelenting, and we know that this is not an easy role, but she does it with good humour, with humility, with so much energy. She never, ever forgets to express gratitude and care for those around her. But she sure does run a tight ship too, Mr. Speaker, make no bones about it. So I want to thank her for her continued service and friendship.

[11:15]

On the government side I want to thank the House Leader, Deputy House Leader, the Whip, the Deputy Whip, all the staff that we know work very hard on that side as well. And I also want to thank the Opposition House Leader. Filling in a little bit this week, I have a newfound appreciation for her and the ways in which she often tries to rein me in, to be honest, Mr. Speaker.

Finally I want to say thanks to our . . . I hope I haven't left anyone else out. But I want to say, if I have, thank you. We know that this place functions with the support of many, many people.

I want to say thanks to our families, especially for those members who come from away. We know how difficult these extended sessions can be on family and the extended village that helps out in various people's households and in their worlds. So I wouldn't want to let today go without that.

And I want to just extend our hope that everyone remains safe and healthy over the summer. I know I am for one really hoping that I have this baby very soon. And I know we all have small or more significant hopes for our families or in our personal lives that we're looking forward to getting back to. The work will continue; it just looks a little different, Mr. Speaker.

So with that I would just wish everyone a safe and productive summer, and we'll see you all in the fall if we don't see you sooner.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I ask leave to move a motion regarding sessional adjournment.

Speaker Goudy: — The Government House Leader has requested leave to move a motion. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

MOTIONS

Session Adjournment

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move:

> That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, in accordance with the parliamentary calendar, it shall stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on October 22nd, 2025 unless earlier recalled by the Speaker upon the request of government, and if recalled, the Speaker shall give each member seven clear days' notice, if possible, of such date and time.

A debate arising and question being put, it was agreed to. Mr. Speaker, I so move.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader:

> That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, in accordance with the parliamentary calendar, it shall be adjourned until 10 a.m. on October 22nd, 2025 unless earlier recalled by the Speaker upon the request of the government, and if recalled, the Speaker shall give each member seven clear days' notice, if possible, of such date and time.

A debate arising and the question being put, is agreed to. 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.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I move that this House do now adjourn.

Speaker Goudy: — Am I allowed to make a comment?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Agreed. I had some notes. I'm not sure if we all have a minute, but I wanted to thank some people as well.

We have our Table Officers that serve us very well: Iris Lang, Kathy Burianyk, Rob Park, Danielle Humble-Selinger, Miranda Gudereit. And the Pages. I had a privilege of sitting with the Pages and hearing their stories, and I would strongly encourage every member to have a coffee with some of our Pages. You will hear unbelievably strong character stories from these ones who have ambition, who are excited to live in this great province, who've come from other places — each one — and have a desire to have a beautiful future. And I am sure that they will all succeed. And I'm so glad that they are all here.

I want to thank our Clerks for being their mentors. And Iris Lang especially shared her story of how she's worked in this building for so many years. She started off in one spot and ended up as the head Clerk. So all the best to our Clerks and our Pages. Thanks for your outstanding work serving our members.

Thanks to Marie Shalashniy. She is our Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel. Lyall Frederiksen, and our deputy, who serve us so very well, and all of your staff for their service.

Dani Herman, I just want to say, every day I get to work, it's so fun being greeted by our staff at the door — the first people you see when you come in and the last people you see when you leave. They make this place a wonderful place to come and work, put up with one another, but we sure have nice greeters, don't we. And they keep us safe, and we appreciate all that they do.

To Steve Bata — a four-letter name and yet so hard to pronounce. These Hungarians. I still don't know how to pronounce Steve's last name, but boy he gets stuff done. You give him a call, you have his number, and you can get things done in this place. And we appreciate him and all of their staff. He calls himself "the guy with the keys," and I like the guys with the keys.

To our Hansard and IT, broadcast services, procedural services: we thank you all. To Sheila, as was mentioned, to Nulee: you've been a blessing to serve together with in that office. And our summer student, Danica, thank you for making that office a beautiful place to be. Our CAs, mine, JoAnne Jago, she's worked so very hard. Our constituents for the whole province, that's why we're here, to serve the province.

Our wives. I want to say just quickly about my own wife, I'm so very thankful for the sacrifices that she and all of your families make.

To the government House leaders: I just want to say real quick . . . And to the deputy government House leaders, but specifically to the government and opposition House leaders: there is a word called "meekness," and meekness is not weakness; it is power under strength.

And I've got to say I feel with two lawyers, being the referee, I sit on my Chair there and feel like a pipsqueak. But they don't make me feel insignificant. They are two very powerful individuals under control. And I want to thank you so very much for your service and your help to keep the order and decorum in this place.

To the Leader of the Opposition, thank you for your patience with me. I'm not sure if I always called everything correctly, and you've been very gracious. And you know, watching you serve the people of this province as the King's loyal opposition, you've done a great job leading your team. I'm very proud to know you. You're a good ballplayer. One day we'll play against each other somewhere other than here. And I don't want to be the ref at that time; I want to play.

And to the Premier: I got to know you as the Premier and as an MLA. And I've come to know what it's like to have your name dragged through the mud in the media, and you've got big shoulders. And you have my respect as a friend. And I didn't realize how much stress that a family can go through with . . . You're the big target. It seems that everybody can say what they want about an individual and yet . . . You're a good man. And I appreciate you as well as the Leader of the Opposition — two wonderful people to work with.

So with that, to all of the members who have made my time in this Chair a delight, I never feel fearful here. Even though everybody needs a chance to sit here one day . . . And when you say question period the butterflies in your stomach are all trying to find their way and they're fighting in there.

But you know what makes it the easiest to be the Speaker is that I can truly look out at every member here and say that you are my friend. And I believe that I have your respect, your friendship, and most importantly your commitment to be faithful to the people that you serve. You were chosen by your constituents to come to this building, to labour, and to serve. And I'm honoured to be able to serve alongside of you.

So it's an honour and a privilege to serve the province of Saskatchewan. God bless you all. God bless your families and all the people who together we serve in this great province of Saskatchewan. Travel safe and have a wonderful summer, each one.

So with that, is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until October 22nd, 2025 at — just checking to see if everybody knows — at 1:30 or the call of the Chair.

An Hon. Member: — 10 a.m.

Speaker Goudy: — 10 a.m. 10 a.m. — I was just checking whether you knew — or at the call of the Chair as the government requests. God bless you all.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:25.]

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN
CABINET MINISTERS

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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

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Hon. Travis Keisig
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Hon. David Marit
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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
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Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan

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Minister Responsible for the
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