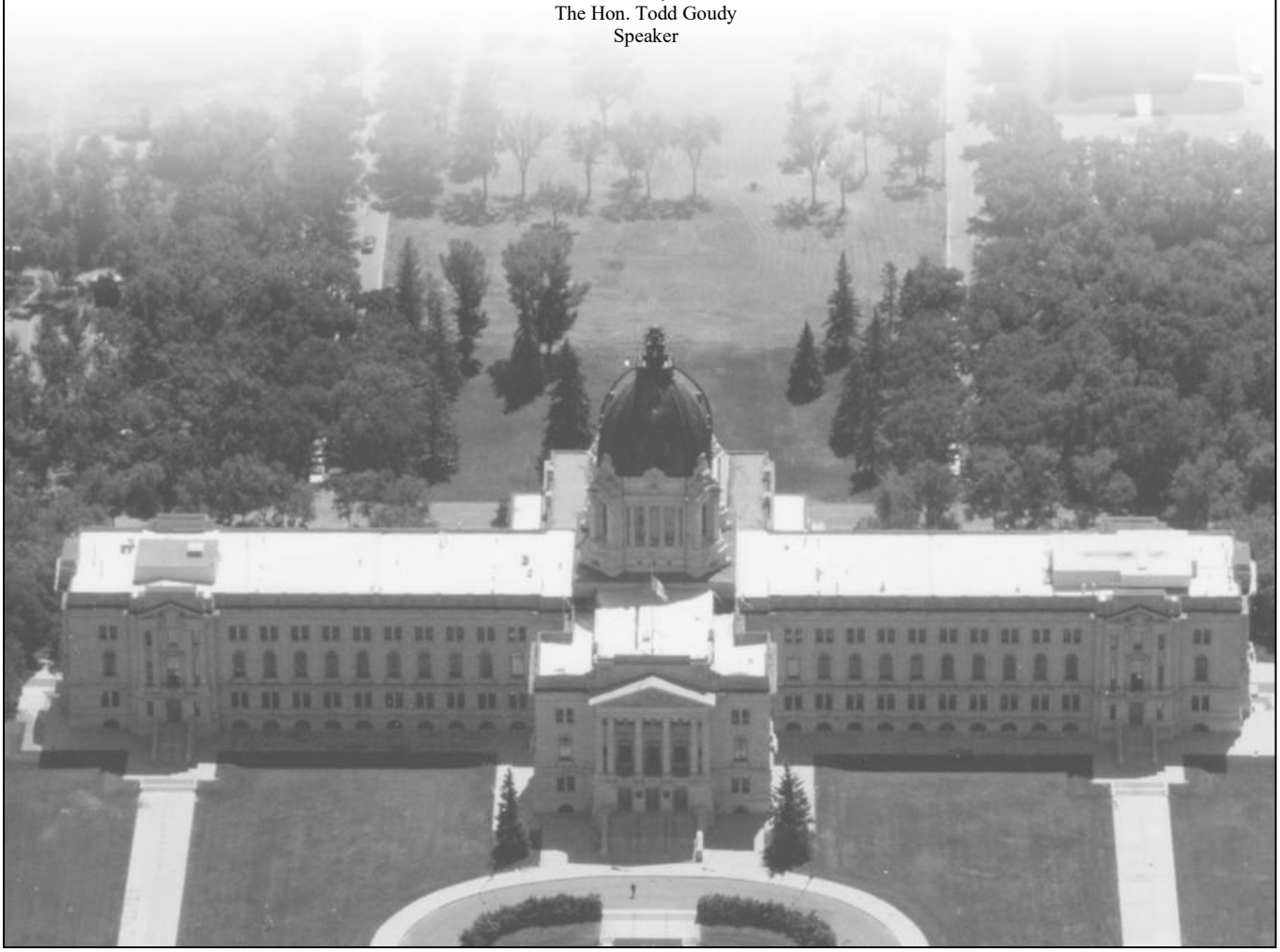
THIRD SESSION — THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD)
Published under the
authority of
The Hon. Todd Goudy
Speaker



N.S. VOL. 68 **NO. 11A TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026, 13:30**

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
3rd 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, Hon. 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)
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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)
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Keisig, 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)
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Ross, Hon. Alana — Prince Albert Northcote (SP)
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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, Hon. Michael — Weyburn-Bengough (SP)
Wilson, Hon. Sean — Canora-Pelly (SP)
Wotherspoon, Trent — Regina Mount Royal (NDP)
Young, Aleana — Regina South Albert (NDP)
Young, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)

Standings
Government Caucus: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 34; Opposition Caucus: New Democratic Party (NDP) — 26; Independent (Ind) — 1

Clerks-at-the-Table
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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Jeremy Cockrill: — 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. Jeremy Cockrill: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, joining us in your gallery today we've got several folks. I know not all of them were able to stay from this morning's event to proceedings today, but I do want to read their names into the record.

From Ovarian Cancer Canada, Stephanie Gosselin is here. We have several patients with us and their families today: Anne Chase, Kathy Szarkowicz, Karen Synesael, Brenda and Darrell Tunstead, Ken and Marilyn Williams, Martin and Gisele Croteau. We also had Jill Kravinchuk and Dominique Touchette. Jill and Dominique are representatives of AbbVie, one of the drug manufacturers that I'll speak about.

We had an opportunity to be joined by many of my colleagues, including the Premier, this morning on the first floor of this building to announce that, as of December 1st, Saskatchewan is providing coverage for two drugs to help women dealing with ovarian cancer: Elahere and Keytruda.

And you know, Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank these guests for their advocacy over the last little while. I've had the opportunity to sit with them several times over the last year and a bit, really learn more about the challenges around dealing with ovarian cancer and the reality that many patients . . . As that cancer becomes more advanced, treatments are not as effective. And that really speaks to the importance of Saskatchewan — and hopefully other provinces soon to come — providing coverage for new, innovative treatments that can be more customizable and provide another runway of hope for these patients, Mr. Speaker.

Again the announcement today, getting to make an announcement like that today and thinking about the impact that it has on families in our province. I want to thank these women for their incredible advocacy. I want to thank Stephanie, of course, as well as the folks from AbbVie and Merck — Merck is the manufacturer of Keytruda — for working with the Government of Saskatchewan and getting us to this spot for Saskatchewan patients. I would ask all members to join me in welcoming these guests to this, their legislature.

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

Jacqueline Roy: — Merci, monsieur le Président. [Translation: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.] I'd like to join the member opposite in welcoming the team from Ovarian Cancer Canada and some of the pharmaceutical companies that the federal government has been working with lately, with their pharmaceutical program, to ensure that Canadians have access to very important drugs, Mr. Speaker, to very important drugs when Canadians are at the stage of ovarian cancer where they need quality of life, quality of life in their last days.

Mr. Speaker, as some people in this House know, this is quite personal when it comes to me. I lost a dear friend 10 years ago from stage IV ovarian cancer. And I'm happy. I'm happy to see that there is more treatments available. I am happy to see that AbbVie came back with the federal government to the table to make those things go through and to make situations better for families that are in this.

And I'd like to thank every family in Saskatchewan. We got dozens and dozens of letters to our offices, people reaching out, encouraging people to get back to the table and to make things right here in Saskatchewan and across Canada.

So to the team at Ovarian Cancer Canada, Stephanie Gosselin and all your team there and to everybody else: thank you from the bottom of our hearts. This greatly helps with the quality of women's lives.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I could, through you and to you to all members of the Assembly, introduce a few guests who are here today from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

We have had over the past couple of days, Mr. Speaker, some folks that have been in the city since, I think, Sunday for their annual convention and meetings. I'm not going to name names, but there's a few folks in both the Speaker's gallery and in the west gallery as well, Mr. Speaker — school board trustees, school board Chairs as well, doing good work on behalf of the families in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I think typically after the SSBA [Saskatchewan School Boards Association] convention we've had a fairly significant delegation of folks who have stayed after the second day of convention to come to proceedings. But I understand that there's a bit of a storm rolling into southern Saskatchewan so some have hit the road for home, and others are trying to beat that storm here today as well.

But, Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank all of the school board trustees for the excellent work they do in their home communities, supporting families and most importantly supporting students. And on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

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

Matt Love: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to join with the minister opposite in welcoming these school board

trustees here to their Legislative Assembly.

You know, as the minister noted, they just wrapped up three very important days with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association for their fall annual assembly here in Regina, that so many of us were able to join them last night and to celebrate excellence, recognize the good work that they do on behalf of students and families, on behalf of education in the province.

These individuals that were here this week, they represent 27 public, Catholic, and francophone school boards. And they share constituents with all 61 members in this Assembly. And so on behalf of a very grateful opposition, I want to thank those trustees who are here today. I see trustees from Chinook School Division and Prairie Spirit School Division, and perhaps there's others that I've missed.

But I want to thank them for their service to the children and youth of this province. And they are our present. They are our future. And we cannot serve them without very important local voices leading the way in education. So I invite all members to join me in welcoming these trustees here to their Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you I'm pleased to introduce a guest seated in your gallery. We have Rod McKendrick. Rod is currently the provincial social prescribing coordinator for Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, and he's here for the introduction of legislation later today.

Rod retired from the Ministry of Justice victim services as the interpersonal violence specialist for the province, where he managed the contracts for Indigenous family violence programs, the children-exposed-to-violence programs, and other specialized programs, along with being the Co-Chair of the government's sub-committee on human trafficking.

Prior to his work with Justice, Mr. Speaker, Rod served with the Regina Police Service, where he provided the province with province-wide training on interpersonal violence and abuse and provided expertise on other justice initiatives.

In 2022 Rod was deservingly appointed to the Order of Canada, Mr. Speaker. I would ask all members to join me in welcoming Rod to this, his Legislative Assembly.

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

Meara Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is quite an honour to join with the minister opposite in welcoming Rod to this, his Legislative Assembly. You know, this side has been working with Rod and learning so much about social prescribing. We've had occasion to go out and meet with and tour age-friendly communities and hear about the incredible work being done by the Seniors Mechanism of Saskatchewan on this important issue.

We do very much hope to see continued government or new government support for social prescribing in the months and years ahead, Mr. Speaker. And we are so looking forward to the upcoming conference on social prescribing. We'll have really leaders in this field, including one UK [United Kingdom] physician of note who's really one of the founding fathers of social prescribing here in Saskatchewan. And we're just really looking forward to learning more and continuing to work with these folks to ensure that our communities are age friendly and that all Saskatchewan residents get the supports they need, whatever stage of life.

So I would ask all members to join me in welcoming Rod to this, his Legislative Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Cannington.

Daryl Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to introduce today, in your gallery, the mayor of Wawota. He's a strong advocate for his community, and both him and his council are extraordinary ambassadors for their community as well as the surrounding area, including the provincial park, Moose Mountain Provincial Park, and as well as White Bear First Nations. They work really good collaboratively together.

And I'd like to ask all members to welcome His Worship, Mayor Kevin Kay. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Jordan McPhail: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join the member opposite in welcoming Kevin to this, the Saskatchewan provincial legislature. I believe I first met Kevin on the floor of SUMA [Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association], maybe one of the receptions in an evening at SUMA. And I've got to say, I learned a lot as a young guy in politics from some of the mayors and councillors all across Saskatchewan. And that's no shortage of expertise in Kevin.

So on behalf of the official opposition, I want to thank Kevin for his service to his community and welcome him to the provincial legislature here in Saskatchewan. Thanks.

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

Megan Patterson: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you, I'd like to introduce Najib Wasajja and his mother, Deidre Powell. They are seated in your gallery.

I was so fortunate to meet this incredible young man at Tim Hortons in Moose Jaw. Originally from Uganda, East Africa, Najib is a nursing student at the University of Regina and currently leading a trauma mortality research project. Najib is a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve serving at 15 Wing in Moose Jaw with the Snowbirds. During his military training, he earned top athlete honours. He was also selected to command his class's final parade. He is also an Imagine Canada honouree.

Deidre Powell is a lawyer, mediator, writer, and Saskatchewan Writers' Guild board member. She is also involved with the Regina Rotary Club. Please join me in thanking Najib and Deidre for their contributions to our province, and welcome them to this, their Legislative Assembly.

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

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a privilege to rise today to introduce a special guest in the west gallery today. Alongside fellow members from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association is Kate Kading.

I met Kate many years ago through a colleague of mine who works in the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police], an exemplary sergeant in the RCMP, was when I first met Kate. And we struck a friendship then and I've gotten to know Kate a lot over the years. She's a very talented lady. She's more than an RCMP spouse; she's also a fierce advocate, a passionate advocate for education in the province as she sits on the Prairie Spirit School Division.

But she's also an accomplished author, Mr. Speaker. I had the pleasure of acquiring her book this year and reading it. I'll be providing a member's statement on it. It's a compelling account of a very important incident that occurred in law enforcement in the province. I look forward to providing that statement.

But I would at this time ask all members of the Legislative Assembly to welcome Kate to this, her provincial legislature.

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

Trent Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise to welcome a good pastor to this Assembly. Not the bearded one up in the east gallery, Mr. Speaker, but the one with the goatee in the west gallery. That's none other than Doug Armbruster, Mr. Speaker.

Now some of you might have seen him on the volleyball courts before, Mr. Speaker, as well. He is a long-serving coach back in his days at Raymore, where he was also elected there and a real community leader. Now he and his family are here in Regina and he's coaching over at Harvest City. And he leads the Calvary Baptist Church in Walsh Acres, Mr. Speaker.

Him and his wife, Jocelyn, have a wonderful family. They certainly give back to the community in many ways. And I ask all to provide him a very warm welcome.

[13:45]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to introduce, up in the east gallery there are 23 great-looking grade 7 students up there — so give them a wave — up there with their teacher, Kyle Brown. Kyle, give us a wave. They are coming to you today from Wascana Plains School, which by no coincidence is in the constituency of Wascana Plains.

So I want to welcome them, and we will meet for a picture out there a little bit later. And my colleague, MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] from Rochdale, will take care of that. I have tasks to take care of in here, but I'll get out to say hi to you folks if I am able to do that. So welcome today to your Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Nicole Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present yet another petition calling on the government to reverse the ban on third-party educators from publicly funded schools.

Those who signed this petition wish to bring to our attention the following: that on August 22nd, 2023, the Saskatchewan government banned all third-party educators from publicly funded schools. Those who are banned include organizations like the Regina Sexual Assault Centre, The Battlefords & Area Sexual Assault Centre, The North East Outreach and Support Services, and Partners Family Services, amongst many others. The topics that these organizations teach include things like consent, healthy relationships, and child sexual abuse prevention.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Saskatchewan's own domestic violence death review reports from 2018 and 2025 have both highlighted the importance of preventative education for youth in reducing the rates of intimate partner violence. Data from provinces which have implemented school-based programming on healthy relationships and consent have lower rates of police-reported intimate partner violence, intimate partner homicides, and sexual abuse. Mr. Speaker, the decision to ban these educators will make Saskatchewan's rates of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and sexual abuse worse, not better.

I'd like to 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 immediately reverse its decision to ban third-party educators in Saskatchewan schools, and consult with experts in developing a comprehensive curriculum for all Saskatchewan students.

Those who signed this petition today come from Saskatoon and Martensville. I do so present.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the Assembly today to present a petition calling on the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan for the acceleration of the construction of the new joint-use elementary and high schools in east Regina.

These residents of the province of Saskatchewan wish to bring attention to the following: that in September 2024, ahead of the provincial election, the Ministry of Education promised to build a new joint-use elementary school and high school in east Regina; that there's currently no timeline for the construction and opening of either school, with the most recent government budget causing further delays; that the elementary schools in the east end of Regina are significantly overcrowded; that families living in new developments do not have a school in their area to send their children; that the school's library, dance studio, teachers' lounge, multi-purpose room have all been used as temporary classrooms;

and that all children have a right to a well-rounded education in a safe environment.

The prayer reads as follows:

> We respectfully request the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to immediately provide the support needed to complete and open the new joint-use elementary and high schools in east Regina as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, the signatories today reside in the constituency of Regina Wascana Plains. 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 to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan to properly fund all regional libraries. Those who signed this petition today would like us to know that libraries are so much more than just books — they're a place of belonging, a place for learners both young and old, they support affordability, and they support community.

The Wapiti Regional Library has announced plans to close six branches due to long-term provincial funding shortfalls. These communities are Alvena, Gronlid, Mistatim, Pilger, Prairie River, and St. Benedict. These cuts will lead to job losses, loss of services for the community, and loss of access to resources and community programs.

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 increase funding to all regional libraries to adequate and sustainable levels to prevent the closure of all branches.

And I'll note that those who signed the petition today are from Wakaw, Cudworth, and Alvena. I do so present.

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

Bhajan Brar: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to present a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan to implement rent control now.

We, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following: that Saskatchewan tenants are currently experiencing the highest level of rent increase in the country; that rent in Saskatchewan has risen by 4 per cent in the last year alone, far outpacing wage growth and putting more pressure on families, seniors, students, and low-income residents; that without rent control, landlords can implement unchecked rent hikes, making housing increasingly unaffordable and unstable; that with rent control, a resident can budget more effectively, potentially putting them in a position to save for a down payment on their first home; that provinces such as British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, and Prince Edward Island have already implemented rent control measures to protect tenants and maintain housing affordability.

> We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to adopt fair and effective rent control legislation that limits annual rent increases, ensures housing stability, and protects tenants from being priced out of their homes.

This petition has been signed by the residents of Regina. I do so present. Thank you.

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

Darcy Warrington: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present our petition calling for the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan to increase the number of highway pullouts in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, there has been an embarrassing number of overpass crashes just this year, and this petition highlights one of the many actions this government could take to begin actively remedying this dangerous epidemic.

We, the undersigned residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following: highway pullouts are crucial for driver safety, allowing for drivers to safely stop for inspections, switching loads, or addressing emergencies without obstructing traffic flow. Under the National Safety Code standard 10, drivers must inspect their loads every 240 kilometres or three hours to prevent cargo from shifting or spilling. Without safe pullouts, these required checks put both drivers and other road users at risk. Previous commitments made by the Government of Saskatchewan to build more pullouts have not been fulfilled.

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 immediately increase the number of pullouts in the province so that operators can meet requirements safely.

Mr. Speaker, this petition has been signed by residents from Saskatoon. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

New Treatments Benefit Saskatchewan Ovarian Cancer Patients

Terri Bromm: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am pleased to highlight an important advancement in cancer care for Saskatchewan patients. Beginning December 1st, eligible patients with an advanced ovarian cancer will have access to two new breakthrough treatments: Elahere and Keytruda. These innovative therapies offer hope for women facing one of the most difficult and aggressive forms of cancer.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan is one of the leading provinces to

provide access to these life-extending treatments. Approximately 8 to 10 Saskatchewan patients are expected to benefit from them each year.

Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed in its later stages and can be challenging to treat when standard therapies stop working. For patients and families facing this diagnosis, access to new treatment options can make a meaningful difference. Clinical studies have shown these treatments can help patients live longer and improve quality of life.

These investments are about more than medicine. They are about helping people live longer, improving quality of life, and supporting patients and families through some of the most challenging moments of their lives. Through the patients-first health care plan, our government continues to invest in the people, programs, and treatments that improve outcomes and ensure Saskatchewan residents have access to high-quality care closer to home.

I ask all members to join me in recognizing the dedicated health care professionals, researchers, and support staff who continue to improve cancer care for Saskatchewan patients and families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

International Day of the Girl Is a Call to Take Action

Jacqueline Roy: — Mr. Speaker, October 11th was International Day of the Girl, which is a day for every member in this Assembly to ask a question: have we done what is necessary for the next generation of girls here in Saskatchewan? Because equality for girls does not happen by accident.

For girls, a strong public education system means that extra opportunity, yet classrooms are overcrowded and supports are stretched thin. And every girl deserves the chance to learn, to compete, to lead, and to play. For girls, having enough food to eat means learning and succeeding, yet Saskatchewan has the highest child poverty rate among the provinces and the highest food bank use.

For girls, knowing how to recognize abuse, understand consent, and establish clear boundaries and know about healthy relationships, that comes through preventative education; yet this government removed many of the trusted experts from those classrooms and has not found a way to bring them back yet. It is important for both boys and girls to understand healthy relationships and what they mean. For girls, access to a family doctor is essential for their physical and mental well-being.

Mr. Speaker, on International Day of the Girl, it's important for the government to ask themselves not just what they want to say about girls, but to actually take action and make change.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of SaskBuilds.

Canora Football Player Contributes to Regina Thunder's National Championship Win

Hon. Sean Wilson: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable achievement by the Regina Thunder who captured the Canadian Junior Football championship with an impressive 42-21 victory over the Westshore Rebels in the Canadian Bowl national title game in Kelowna, BC [British Columbia].

Among those celebrating this national championship is Joey Palagian, who grew up in Canora. His dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence have helped bring this prestigious title back to Saskatchewan. This season marks Joey's fourth year with the Regina Thunder. He has demonstrated the hard work, discipline, and team-first attitude that junior football demands. His journey from Canora to the national stage serves as an inspiration to young athletes across our province, showing talent, determination, and community support can lead to great success.

I ask all members of this Assembly to join me in congratulating Joey Palagian, his teammates, coaches, support staff, and the entire Regina Thunder organization on securing a national championship.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Rosthern Author Documents Sacrifices of Two Fallen Officers

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. October 9th, 2026 marked the 56th anniversary of the beginning of the longest manhunt in Canadian history. On that cold fall day in October of 1970, Sergeant Robert James Schrader and Constable Douglas Bernard Anson attended a remote farmhouse south of Macdowall, Saskatchewan to speak with a suspect about a domestic violence incident. Sadly, both officers were shot and killed by the suspect. What followed was, at that time, the longest manhunt in Canadian history.

The story of these officers, their colleagues, and the hunt that followed was described by local author and Rosthern resident Kate Kading in her book, *On Scene*. Kate's book ensures the people of Saskatchewan and Canada never forgot the ultimate sacrifice made by these dedicated officers and the invaluable lessons learned to ensure that other officers did not meet the same fate.

I was fortunate to have Kate take me out to the scene of this tragic event to show me the landmarks detailed in her book, many of which are still standing today. Sadly, Saskatchewan leads the country in interpersonal violence, and I can personally attest that domestic violence situations are the most dangerous situations any officer can face.

[14:00]

I want to thank Kate for taking the time to discuss her painstaking efforts to document this event and to keep the memories and the sacrifices of Sergeant Schrader and Constable Anson alive today.

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

National Addictions Awareness Week Highlights Government's Commitment to Recovery

Kevin Kasun: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this week, November 16th to the 21st, we recognize National Addictions Awareness Week. Whether someone is taking their first step towards recovery or continuing along that path, our government is committed to ensuring support is available every step of the way.

We are expanding addictions treatment spaces as we approach the 500 additional treatment spaces committed in our action plan for mental health and addictions. Mr. Speaker, we'll bring the provincial capacity up to 1,250 treatment spaces. Earlier this year, *The Compassionate Intervention Act* came into force, and preparations continue to ensure the program becomes operational early in the new year. As well, work continues on our new central intake system, which will streamline access to addictions treatment for those who need it.

With a record investment of over $674 million in mental health and addictions, our government's commitment to recovery is clear. We will continue to build a full continuum of services throughout the province, including withdrawal management, treatment, recovery living, and peer supports.

Mr. Speaker, recovery is possible, and we will continue working to ensure that no one has to face their addiction alone. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Drug Levels in Prince Albert's Wastewater Cause Concern

Leroy Laliberte: — Mr. Speaker, Statistics Canada's latest wastewater testing paints a deeply concerning picture of the drug problem in Prince Albert. In March of this year, Prince Albert recorded the highest cocaine and meth levels among seven Canadian cities reporting data. The cocaine measure reached 5296 milligrams per 1,000 people per day. That's 37 per cent higher than March of 2024, and roughly five times the combined reported city level. Methamphetamine reached 2003, more than five times that benchmark.

Mr. Speaker, wastewater testing is an indicator of consumption, not the count of drug users. But these extraordinary findings deserve extraordinary response. Prince Albert's police chief has made clear that enforcement alone cannot solve this problem.

The provincial government has announced new sober-living spaces and a complex-needs facility. Those supports matter. But where is the specific plan to confront the extraordinarily high cocaine and methamphetamine readings in Prince Albert? Where are the measurable targets, coordinated action against traffickers, access to appropriate treatment, and regular public reporting on results?

Mr. Speaker, Prince Albert families, businesses, and front-line workers deserve more than a list of programs. They deserve a focused provincial strategy with clear responsibilities, timelines, and evidence that conditions are improving.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Last Mountain-Touchwood.

Revisions to Opposition Health Plan

Travis Keisig: — Mr. Speaker, the NDP [New Democratic Party] is now on version three of their big, bold, beautiful health plan in less than a month because apparently NDP now stands for "nobody does proofreading." They had to take down version one because they left in the AI [artificial intelligence] prompts. They had to take down version two because it said there are 4 billion patients in Finland, a country of 6 million people. By the way, nobody in the NDP Party caught any of these mistakes. We had to point them out.

Now the NDP health critic says she meant to say 4 million patients, not 4 billion. Well, Mr. Speaker, strike three. They're wrong again. It turns out there's actually close to 7 million patients in Finland's system. There are 4 billion patient records, not patients. It's no wonder no one takes the NDP seriously.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to version four of the NDP's error-riddled health plan, and to pointing out more obvious mistakes that they haven't caught yet. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Affordability and Cost of Living

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, if only he paid that much attention to Highway 22, but here we are. Mr. Speaker, costs continue to rise in Saskatchewan. The new numbers from Statistics Canada show that in Saskatchewan, inflation continues to be higher than the national average. People here are paying more for the basics — water, electricity, groceries.

Now we've brought a half-dozen bills before this Assembly trying to get people some relief, to reduce the cost of rent, to cut the cost for groceries. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Premier would care to explain to Saskatchewan people why he refuses to cut them a break while prices continue to rise.

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, as has been discussed on the floor of this Assembly on numerous occasions over the course of the last year or two — in fact up to and including the last provincial election, Mr. Speaker, where it was this government that ran largely on a platform of affordability, increasing affordability measures in each and every budget, including this most recent budget by half a billion dollars a year, total — two and a half billion dollars included in every single budget goes straight to the affordability for families across this province, resulting in the second-lowest utility bundle across the nation in Canada, resulting in the lowest rental rates across the nation in Canada, Mr. Speaker.

This is a government that committed to those affordability measures, Mr. Speaker. We delivered on those affordability measures in each and every budget since that election, Mr. Speaker. And this is unlike the NDP in British Columbia, who committed to affordability measures then backed away from them as soon as they had the opportunity after the election, Mr. Speaker. Well rightfully so, the people of British Columbia

kicked them to the curb, Mr. Speaker.

And, Mr. Speaker, you see the same with the policy — whether they're AI generated or not — coming from the members opposite. They do not have any opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to actually create a more affordable environment in the province that is the most affordable place to live in Canada today.

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

Data Centre Project

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, this is the number one issue facing people in this province, and that's what you get from this Premier. Talk about entitled and out of touch. The Premier delivers lines like that while people are living paycheque to paycheque and kids in this province go hungry.

Mr. Speaker, now his government is ramming through his massive AI data centre with no clear plan about how they're going to power it. Maybe no plan to power it, but we do know who is going to pay for it.

Would the Premier care to explain to Saskatchewan people just how high their power bills are going to get to pay for his data centre, power for that data centre, that no one in this province was consulted on?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — The question is not relevant, Mr. Speaker, as it's Bell Canada that is going to pay for the power for their data centre that they are constructing in Regina.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would repeat that the question just simply isn't relevant because it is Bell Canada that is going to pay for the power for the data centre located in Regina, Saskatchewan. The largest . . . Mr. Speaker, I'll just be very clear. It is Bell Canada that is going to pay to bring the power to the Bell Canada investment right here in Regina, Saskatchewan. An investment that is going to provide 3,000 jobs. An investment that is going to strengthen our Crown utilities in the province of Saskatchewan. The single largest investment in Canadian history that is going to provide Canadians, including those in Saskatchewan, with data sovereignty, Mr. Speaker.

It is odd, Mr. Speaker, that the NDP actually oppose this particular investment, Mr. Speaker. They use this technology to bring forward their policies in health care, Mr. Speaker. They use this technology to bring forward policies in their power plan, Mr. Speaker. It seems that many people out there are starting to refer to this opposition as the chat NDP who use ChatGPT to bring forward their health care policy in the province of Saskatchewan.

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

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, the Premier is clearly over his head with this boondoggle, this data centre boondoggle, with more problems every day. And frankly answers like that, Mr. Speaker . . . But the performance of his Environment minister, well that really takes the cake, Mr. Speaker.

Yesterday after 200 days of hiding, the minister admitted that she hadn't even thought to ask if an environmental assessment should be conducted. Somehow, Mr. Speaker, that didn't even occur to her. Yesterday after 200 days, she answered two questions and then she hid behind her officials. Not exactly inspiring confidence.

Mr. Speaker, does the minister still have the confidence of that Premier? Or will she be the latest in the revolving door of Environment ministers on that side?

Speaker Goudy: — Sorry, one second. I'm just going to ask, you know, the decorum in the Chamber . . . to say "hiding for 200 days" . . . Let's keep our questions and our answers a little toned down.

Mr. Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — It's that Leader of the Opposition and those members opposite that did not ask the Environment minister a question for over 200 days, Mr. Speaker.

And so it begs the question: if this was a priority of the members opposite, why did you not ask a question, day in, day out, when the Minister of Environment is sitting in her chair? Took the opposition 200 days, 200 days to ask the Minister of Environment a question . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Hon. Scott Moe: — To stand in their place, Mr. Speaker, and accuse the Minister of Environment for not being available to not answer a question that isn't even asked, Mr. Speaker. This is the mentality of what we see, Mr. Speaker, being brought . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Hon. Scott Moe: — And with respect to that project, Mr. Speaker, what the Leader of the Opposition is suggesting is that politicians should be directing policy when an EA [environmental assessment] is administered or when an EA isn't administered, Mr. Speaker.

In this province, in this nation — federal, provincial, municipal — we have a robust regulatory environment, Mr. Speaker. That regulatory environment's been followed through phase 1; Bell Canada has committed to following it through phase 2. In the same way, Mr. Speaker, that a uranium mine, a potash mine, a pipeline, an energy investment follows the robust regulatory environment that we have.

The difference, Mr. Speaker — and it's very evident on the floor of this Assembly — is you have a government that is trying to build this province up and build big things in this province and an opposition that is trying to block each and every one of those big things that are being built in the province of Saskatchewan and the nation of Canada.

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

Funding for Public Libraries

Carla Beck: — Mr. Speaker, so much shouting. But perhaps the Premier should check his facts. In fact those questions were put to the Environment minister 200 days ago in writing. Yesterday was the first time we heard anything from her, Mr. Speaker.

But not only did she not answer those questions; this Environment minister also happens to be the MLA for some of the communities that are facing library closures because of the chronic underfunding of this government. People living in these six communities are losing critical gathering spaces, places where kids learn and where they dream about the future.

Mr. Speaker, are that minister, the Education minister, and the Premier really going to stand by and twiddle their thumbs while these communities lose these valuable institutions?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Mr. Speaker, on the theme of ensuring that we are checking facts and bringing facts to the floor of this Assembly — which the people of the province deserve from Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, Mr. Speaker — is, in the case of regional libraries, there is a 2 per cent increase this past year, Mr. Speaker.

In the case of the regulatory framework that we have when it comes to building big things in this province — of which this government encourages, Mr. Speaker, which the opposition members try to block at every opportunity — we have a regulatory process that is robust in this province. It's followed through phase 1 of Bell Canada's investment. Bell Canada is committed to following it through phase 2, Mr. Speaker.

At the end of the day, you have a government that's trying to build, an opposition NDP that's trying to block each and every project, each and every career, Mr. Speaker, and each and every opportunity we have to strengthen the Crown sector in our great province of Saskatchewan.

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

Data Centre Approval Process

Jared Clarke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now I know that the Minister of Crowns will want to stand up and defend his deal on data centres, but my questions today are about the environment and to the Environment minister.

Yesterday we saw that minister make it crystal clear that she doesn't know what triggers an environmental assessment. She doesn't know if she can trigger an environmental impact assessment. And she didn't know why this massive AI data centre — bigger than 500 football fields — wasn't subjected to an environmental impact assessment.

[14:15]

So again why was no environmental assessment completed? What exactly has that minister been doing over the last 200 days besides, of course, cancelling and then uncancelling the CWD [chronic wasting disease] testing program?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Scott Moe: — First off, Mr. Speaker, what the Environment minister has not been doing is answering questions on the floor of this Assembly because they haven't been asked by the opposition until yesterday, Mr. Speaker . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Hon. Scott Moe: — Two hundred days of silence from those members who claim to represent the people of the province as Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, Mr. Speaker.

What I would ask the member opposite, the Leader of the Opposition, and everyone over there is if they are suggesting that elected politicians should step in front of the robust regulatory process that we have in this province. Is that what you're suggesting?

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

Jared Clarke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought I was clear that that was to go to the Environment minister there, who I thought the Premier had confidence in to answer the question.

Now I sent a letter to the minister's office back on April 14th. We've heard from thousands and thousands of people. They're worried about emissions, water use, air quality, noise pollution, and so much more. There's a long-term care facility being built right beside the AI data centre.

Now a new study from Harvard researchers published just yesterday found that the 400 largest data centres in the US [United States] produce 25 million metric tons of carbon dioxide in a single year. That's more than all of the emissions produced by the country of Denmark.

If the Premier wants to stand up and ask another question, he can. But I've got one more . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please.

Jared Clarke: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got one question again for the Environment minister. Can the Minister of Environment tell this House exactly how many metric tons of emissions will be produced by the hyperscale AI data centre in Sherwood?

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

Hon. Darlene Rowden: — Mr. Speaker, we have made it clear that Bell is following the robust regulatory processes that are in place at the municipal . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — I don't even know what to say. But could we please listen to the questions and listen to the answers.

Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Darlene Rowden: — We have made it clear that Bell is following the robust regulatory processes that are in place at the municipal, provincial, and federal level. Mr. Speaker, once again it appears the NDP are confused. Bell is in phase 1 of the project, which does not meet the requirements for an environmental impact assessment. Bell will continue to work through Saskatchewan's rigorous environmental systems.

By establishing data sovereignty, bringing over 3,000 jobs and $52 billion in our province, this project will help keep Saskatchewan strong and steady.

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

Jared Clarke: — Mr. Speaker, the minister just referenced how Bell is following all of those controls. So will she publish every document related to those so-called environmental controls by the end of the day? No more political games; no more hiding. Just transparency for the people of Saskatchewan.

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

Hon. Darlene Rowden: — Mr. Speaker, again we have made it clear that Bell is following the robust regulatory processes that are in place . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Minister.

Hon. Darlene Rowden: — Again Bell's following the robust systems that are in place. Bell has committed to meeting all the requirements of that system throughout phase 1 and have committed to the requirements for phase 2.

Our government is focused on keeping Saskatchewan strong and steady, and Bell's investment does exactly that. We are focused on building while the opposition is focused on blocking.

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

Provision of Addictions Services

Meara Conway: — Two words, Mr. Speaker, and it really shouldn't be that hard: prove it.

Mr. Speaker, it's addiction and mental health week, and we know that on this file this government has handed the keys to a company, a donor — an out-of-province, third-party, for-profit, private-equity-run company called EHN, formerly Edgewood Health Network. All of our attempts for basic accountability on transparency on that, much like the hyperscale AI data centre: blocked. We do know that they've received over $600,000 per month to run a 60-bed facility near Lumsden at their Willowview facility.

Now we've had a lot of questions about how they are funded, Mr. Speaker, and we recently got back a written question response showing that this is a fixed contract amount.

So can the minister confirm: is this just a blank cheque for over $7 million a year for 60 beds no matter how many patients are admitted? Are there any conditions attached at all?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Seniors.

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I do thank the member opposite for the question. Mr. Speaker, we have several organizations across the province of Saskatchewan — community-based organizations, treatment facilities — that all have contracts with the Government of Saskatchewan. When we procure those services, we expect that those services will be open and available at all points in time. And each facility is responsible for providing those services, and they are accountable to the Government of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

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

Meara Conway: — Mr. Speaker, the question was about the facility near Lumsden — Willowview. I'd invite the minister to find us an answer on that. To help the minister further, let me be clear. We're talking about the EHN addictions facility Willowview. We were told that they have 60 in-patient beds and it receives over $600,000 per month to operate those 60 beds. That's over $7 million a year.

Once again it's a simple, straight question: is that funding guaranteed no matter how many patients are on site?

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

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did answer the question. We procure services from individual facilities. Whatever number that is in each individual facility, we expect them to be available every single day. And sometimes the beds are completely full. Sometimes people are rotating in and rotating out, Mr. Speaker. But what's important is we are adding those spaces to the province of Saskatchewan so that we can help individuals get into that life of recovery that they so desperately need, Mr. Speaker.

We're committed to providing those services. We have added an additional 412 beds of our 500 commitment. That's on top of the 500 we already had, Mr. Speaker. And we have also committed to adding another 250 spaces. We're here to provide those recovery spaces for the people of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

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

Meara Conway: — I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, that answer was anything but clear. Is the funding unconditional or conditional?

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

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All of the facilities

that we work with, they are required to meet what is in the contract, Mr. Speaker. So there are obviously conditions on all of the organizations that provide services for the province of Saskatchewan. Within our mental health and addictions action plan we continue to work on services for all people.

Earlier in a member statement one of the individuals talked about our central intake system, Mr. Speaker. This is something that is going to help individuals navigate the system. That is something that we're working for the people of Saskatchewan to get them into those recovery spaces. And we will continue that good work, Mr. Speaker.

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

Funding for Public Libraries

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan people are speaking up and speaking out against this entitled and out-of-touch government. The Wapiti regional . . .

Speaker Goudy: — There's been a lot of repetition on descriptive words back and forth. "Entitled," "out of touch" . . . Both sides. No more repetitious descriptor words of the opposition or the government. And please reframe your question.

I'm saying for both sides of this Chamber. I've been listening to . . . I'm just asking that as you describe the government and as you describe the opposition, use them by their names. It's not adding to the benefit of debate, and it is repetitious. I think it's actually lowering the decorum in the Chamber.

Member, please.

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, this government is failing the people, and the people are speaking up. The Wapiti Regional Library has been forced to shut down six locations: in Alvena, Gronlid, Mistatim, Pilger, Prairie River, and St. Benedict. People are losing their libraries as a direct result of this government's underfunding.

Now many of those people live in the riding of that Environment minister. Earlier today I presented a petition signed by her constituents.

Will the minister listen to her constituents? Will she speak up to ensure that the libraries in her constituency have the funding they need to stay open?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Premier had mentioned in an earlier question here this afternoon, the libraries have received a 2 per cent increase in funding in this year's budget.

In addition to that, the libraries, as I mentioned yesterday, are also able to benefit from funding that goes to — record funding, by the way, Mr. Speaker — that goes to Saskatchewan municipalities as a result of record revenue sharing, Mr. Speaker. And that funding goes to the regional library boards, and from there they make their decisions in terms of how the operating funding is flowing to libraries within their boundaries, Mr. Speaker.

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

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, all of the people who are worried about their libraries closing, well they all have Sask Party MLAs. They live in Batoche, they live in Melfort, and they live in Carrot River Valley. But the Sask Party government is doing nothing to stop those cuts.

The head of the library made it crystal clear that these cuts are a direct result of this out-of-touch government: "We've been struggling for years with lack of adequate provincial funding."

What does the minister say to constituents of these Sask Party MLAs whose calls for help are being ignored by this government?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member opposite is right. Those communities are all represented by Saskatchewan Party MLAs. They will never be represented by NDP MLAs for any time in the near future, Mr. Speaker.

I will say this: that in addition to the funding that I have talked about, the Government of Saskatchewan has also provided additional funding through the library system to help provide support for shipping costs, Mr. Speaker, to help supply the . . .

[Interjections]

Speaker Goudy: — Order, please. Sorry.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Mr. Speaker, as I was saying, in addition to the funding provided by the provincial government to the regional libraries, and through municipal revenue sharing as well in partnership with local municipalities, there is also funding provided to help support shipping costs for libraries across the province as well as internet costs, router upgrades, Mr. Speaker.

And we continue to meet with libraries. And I understand that the library directors, they meet on a quarterly basis — if not more frequently — with the Provincial Librarian. And I've had the opportunity to meet with a number of libraries across this province. I was invited to speak at the provincial association conference back in the spring, Mr. Speaker, and will continue to engage with them.

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

Matt Love: — Mr. Speaker, we have six libraries slated to close. Simple question to the minister: how many more libraries will be forced to close before he takes action and does his job?

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Everett Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have said multiple times, the Government of Saskatchewan is proud to support the library sector through a number of different

investments, whether it's the $11.7 million in this year's budget . . . As I said, it's a 2 per cent increase in library funding. There have been previous increases in funding to libraries across this province over the past number of years.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud to support that sector, as I said. In addition to the funding that comes from the government to the sector, there are other opportunities. And the particular case we're speaking about here today, Mr. Speaker, I know that community members have expressed in the media reports that I have seen, that I have read, an interest in engaging with the Wapiti Regional Library to have further conversations with the library about some potential options here. Community members were hoping that perhaps they'd have an opportunity to have some involvement, perhaps to help fundraise for this, Mr Speaker.

The government will continue to support the libraries across Saskatchewan.

[14:30]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Access to Social Housing

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I asked about Amanda Hopkinson, who was about to lose her housing for her and her children. Within an hour, housing was found for her and her family.

I am thankful the minister was able to resolve her case. But, Mr. Speaker, the member from Saskatoon Nutana and I both wrote to the minister several times last month. Not a word from him or his officials since then. When we brought Amanda down here and discussed her situation in front of the cameras, well, solved by the end of the day.

If it was such a simple fix, why did the minister not take action until a single mother of five had to make a trip to the legislature? Will we have to do this every time a mother is fleeing domestic violence in this province?

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

Hon. Terry Jenson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I did have a chance to meet with Amanda yesterday, and I did have officials in the building. What actually happened yesterday morning, Mr. Speaker: it's the middle of the month. That's typically when we start seeing notices of tenants that are wishing to vacate. There was a four-bedroom unit that became available. My officials were able to make sure that the arrangements were being made.

Mr. Speaker, this is a government that is committed to ensuring that we have appropriate housing for the appropriate families. We're investing $86 million this year in rent and renovations and repairs, Mr. Speaker.

This is a government, as I said, that takes housing extremely seriously. And this is work that we're going to continue to do. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 77 — *The Mineral Resources (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act, 2026*

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

Hon. Chris Beaudry: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 77, *The Mineral Resources (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act, 2026* be now introduced and read a first time.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved by the Minister of Energy and Resources that Bill No. 77, *The Mineral Resources (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act, 2026* be now introduced and read the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this bill.

Speaker Goudy: — When shall the bill be read a second time?

Hon. Chris Beaudry: — Next sitting of the Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 78 — *The Mineral Resources Wells and Facilities Operations Act*

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

Hon. Chris Beaudry: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 78, *The Mineral Resources Wells and Facilities Operations Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved by the Minister of Energy and Resources that Bill No. 78, *The Mineral Resources Wells and Facilities Operations Act* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this bill.

Speaker Goudy: — When will this bill be read a second time?

Hon. Chris Beaudry: — Next sitting of the Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 76 — *The Prevention of Deceptive Artificial Intelligence Act*

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

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

No. 76, *The Prevention of Deceptive Artificial Intelligence Act* be now introduced and read for a first time.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 76, *The Prevention of Deceptive Artificial Intelligence Act* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this bill.

Speaker Goudy: — When shall this bill be read a second time?

Hon. Tim McLeod: — Next sitting of the Assembly.

Speaker Goudy: — Next sitting.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 75 — *The Community Support and Recovery Act*

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

Hon. Lori Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to move second reading of *The Community Support and Recovery Act*. This legislation is about two fundamental responsibilities of government: helping people struggling with addictions access a path to recovery, and protecting the safety and well-being of communities.

Across Saskatchewan families are deeply concerned about the impact that illicit drugs are having on their loved ones, their neighbourhoods, and their communities. The devastation caused by substance use is being felt in urban, rural, and northern communities alike. Saskatchewan people expect our government to respond. And they expect us to do so in a way that is compassionate, responsible, and focused on achieving better outcomes.

Mr. Speaker, our government believes that every person struggling with addiction has a potential for recovery. We believe treatment works, and we are investing record amounts in these services. On the other hand, we also know that our government has an obligation to consider the broader impacts on community safety. That is why *The Community Support and Recovery Act* establishes a clear provincial framework for where and when supervised consumption sites will be allowed to operate in Saskatchewan.

This legislation will establish minimum setback requirements to ensure that supervised consumption sites are located at least 400 metres away from schools and child care facilities. I believe most Saskatchewan residents would agree that children deserve a safe space to learn, grow, and play. Parents should have confidence that schools and child care centres remain focused on education and child development, free from activities associated with consumption of illicit drugs. This legislation reflects that common-sense principle, Mr. Speaker.

But let me be crystal clear here. Our government does not fund, nor do we support the operation of supervised consumption sites. Supervised consumption sites require a federal exemption under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to operate legally. While that federal process considers several factors, it does not currently require provincial approval and does not establish minimum setback distances from schools or child care centres.

Mr. Speaker, *The Community Support and Recovery Act* addresses an important gap in the current process. This bill ensures that applications for supervised consumption sites cannot proceed without ministerial approval. This gives our government a formal voice in the process about where these sites are located. This means that organizations applying for a federal exemption to operate a supervised consumption site at any location must have the approval of the provincial minister. These decisions carry significant implications for public health, public safety, municipalities, neighbourhoods, and the people who live there.

The requirements under this bill will provide greater accountability, greater transparency, and greater consistency across our province. The legislation ensures Saskatchewan has a meaningful voice in decisions that directly affect Saskatchewan communities, and that is exactly what residents expect. They expect their government to stand up for community safety. They expect their government to ensure that vulnerable individuals are connected with treatment and recovery supports. And they expect decisions affecting their neighbourhoods to be made with appropriate oversight and accountability.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is about balance. While we are already investing heavily in additional access to addictions recovery services, we want to make sure that we are recognizing the rights of families, children, businesses, and communities to feel safe where they live, learn, and work. It is about creating safer communities across Saskatchewan. Our government believes we can support recovery while protecting public safety. We believe we can show compassion while exercising responsibility. And we believe Saskatchewan residents deserve a government that reflects both of those values.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to introduce *The Community Support and Recovery Act* and respectfully move second reading of this bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker Goudy: — It has been moved that Bill No. 75, *The Community Support and Recovery Act* be now read a second time. Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member from Saskatoon Riversdale.

Kim Breckner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to enter into debate on Bill No. 75, *The Community Support and Recovery Act*. If this government wants to get serious about addressing the addictions crisis, then they should look at the core issues that they caused and have aggravated this issue every step of the way.

It should come as no surprise that dead people can't recover from addiction, but yet this is something that the government seems to forget. If it's the case that when you call to get addiction treatment

services that you still have to wait weeks to months, there should be safe consumption sites available for you to stay alive until you can access those government services. That's why this government should be taking an all-of-the-above approach to dealing with this crisis.

And I can tell you what's happened in my riding of Saskatoon Riversdale when Prairie Harm Reduction closed. The nearby businesses and the St. Paul's ER [emergency room] was completely overtaken with responding to overdoses. It throttled the other services that these businesses, that these community-based organizations, that the emergency department was providing to other people, and they had to deal solely with this epidemic that this own government created.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I wish to adjourn debate on Bill No. 75, *The Community Support and Recovery Act*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 61

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 61 — *The Mandatory Testing and Disclosure (Bodily Substances) Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again it is certainly an honour to rise in these chambers for the first time of the session to continue debate on Bill No. 61, *The Mandatory Testing and Disclosure (Bodily Substances) Amendment Act, 2026*. I do have a few thoughts to put on the record to add to what my colleagues have previously stated.

A quick summary of the bill. This bill makes amendments to legislation which legalized a mandatory testing and disclosure process which was passed in 2006. These amendments bring the bill up to current practices and procedures. The principal amendment to this 2006 legislation is that testing can be applied for and ordered without contacting the source individual and requesting volunteer testing. The courts can now give a peace officer the power to enforce a testing order.

Protection of our first responders is absolutely imperative. These people put their lives on the line every day, and it's gotten exceedingly worse under the Sask Party government. Every precaution should be taken to keep our first responders from danger and harm.

However this Act doesn't seem to go far enough. It does nothing to get drugs off the street. It does nothing to address our high rates of HIV [human immunodeficiency virus], hepatitis, and tuberculosis. Saskatchewan is consistently worst or second worst in Canada for HIV, hepatitis B and C, and a number of other infectious diseases. We've been at this for a long time under the Sask Party government. And again the opposition feels that further steps should be taken to keep our first responders safe.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 61, *The Mandatory Testing and Disclosure (Bodily Substances) Amendment Act, 2026*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 62

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 62 — *The Statute Law Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I'm rising to put a few words on Bill No. 62, *The Statute Law Amendment Act, 2026*.

Mr. Speaker, this is fairly brief. This is simply a housekeeping bill, which we need now and then just to keep things current and up to date. These amendments seek to update pronoun usage, job titles, remove references to repealed Acts, and modernize language, including removing Latin jargon, which is too bad, Mr. Speaker, because as my colleagues know, I love me some Latin jargon. Or as they say:

[The hon. member spoke for a time in Latin.]

Again, Mr. Speaker, it's important to keep these bills current and up to date just for what you witnessed here in my Latin. Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 62, *The Statute Law Amendment Act, 2026*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

[14:45]

Bill No. 63

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Jim Reiter that **Bill No. 63 — *The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to be on my feet to provide some words on Bill No. 63, *The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act*.

You know, at first blush this appears to be something of a housekeeping bill, providing non-spousal beneficiaries the options to receive lump sums instead of monthly payments like their spouse does. If I'm going to make a comment on this piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker, at this time, it's the sheer volume of items that are going to be removed from the actual legislation written in this Act into the regulations.

The reason why I find this cause for concern — I think many of us on this side do — is not only does it seem to be a habit on the part of this government of moving these items into regulations, but the issue of just doing so, Mr. Speaker, flies in the face of the purpose of the legislation in the first place.

Clearly the ministry involved and the members of this Legislative Assembly saw fit to make matters involving accrual rates, immediate and deferred allowances, allowances for beneficiaries if a member dies early, early and postponed retirement allowances, and disability allowances — clearly they wanted this to be a part of the legislation and not in the regulations.

Now I know what the government is trying to say here: that these will assist in making calculations go faster, be more responsive, etc., etc. But this is a slippery slope, Mr. Speaker, where we see something that was once the law become just a regulation. The regulation can be changed without deliberation by this Legislative Assembly or the members on this floor. So that, generally speaking, should give us all pause for concern, Mr. Speaker.

Beyond that, you know, we all know people in our communities right across this province who are dealing with an unprecedented cost-of-living crisis. Our seniors and pensioners are the ones that are bearing a significant brunt of this cost-of-living crisis as they are mostly on fixed pensions, more than likely not indexed, and have a government here that is failing to provide them meaningful relief.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I will move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 63.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 64

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Jim Reiter that **Bill No. 64 — *The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure and honour to be on my feet to enter into debate on Bill No. 64, *The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act*, Bill No. 64.

Mr. Speaker, we all know about, that for running a government, revenue taxes collection is one of the most important ones, because the government is giving all those things based on that revenue back to the communities. It's very important that we should have to have a transparent and have efficient way of collecting those from those people, that they are taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, we know about that, that it's one of the important amendments as well to make sure we can keep things very transparent, efficient as well. But you know, on the other side, if you go back to COVID time, everything, the prices of everything went higher and higher, and affordability was one of the biggest crises. And now due to the Middle East, the crisis that's going on, the oil expense and all those things move, push all those prices. And people are really, really suffering. And this is very important at this time, that we should have, the government have to take a step to give relief to the community back on this affordability case, Mr. Speaker.

On our side, we moved this motion over and over and over to give a break to people on the gas tax. And we raised this one to remove PST [provincial sales tax] from groceries and from children's clothes as well, which will give a relief.

Every person I believe, that if they are in business, they want to pay their taxes in time. But we make sure we have to be understanding. If they are really facing some hard times we should not be pushing them very hard, to make amendment or legislation so strict so the people are just to get tired and just leaving our province. We don't want that. Legislations are good that we have to give a little bit time frame as well. But if you are pushing too much, the pressure will be going on the wrong side.

And with that I will say that on our side the stakeholder of this portfolio, they will look into that. We will have to consult the stakeholders as well. So what is their thought about this legislation, how that can be impacting. But again it's not something wrong that we are not following up. But if we are pushing too much pressure on the business community . . .

And people want to happily pay that. And I have seen, I heard from many people, when they're getting a tax letter from CRA [Canada Revenue Agency], from provincial government, they got panicking; they stress. If they are stressed and panicking, that means that they want to do something. They want to give it. But make sure that we are not making legislation such a tough that people are taking it the wrong way or just feeling that things, extra burden, and extra stress on their brain.

With that we will be looking on our side as well to make sure we can consult stakeholders. And the person who is in charge of this portfolio, they will be the best one to give a thoughtful comment on that.

So with that, I will be adjourning debate on Bill 64, *The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act*. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 65

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 65 — *The Protection From Human Trafficking Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure again to enter into debate on Bill 64, the protection from human trafficking amendment.

Mr. Speaker, there should be no place for the people who are forcing their employee, their worker to do anything against their willing. We make sure that this one is something that we are giving a life of respect and dignity to each and every individual. They are the owner and they are free to make any decision, any choice they want to pick. That's a very good kind of thing.

Mr. Speaker, there is some check and balance that at every level we have to make sure that these things should not happen. It should be the responsibility of the employer as well to make sure they can respect their employee, the workers in such a way so they can feel safer and they're not being pushed as a human right. Make sure that they have to be working on that.

As for this, we see that there is some invisible things happening. So especially in this bill it says that they will be forcing some hospitality people or drivers and back and forth, if they can see that this thing is happening against the will of any individual, they should have to report it. That's fine. And this is our responsibility as a citizen as well, to make sure if you see something, wrongdoing, we have to inform. We have to notify the authorities.

Again I'm not saying we're individually talking about one person. It is for the entire community to make sure we keep our community in such a way so we feel safer. And we attract people from other provinces as well, that we should be a role model on this perspective. And I will say, there should be zero tolerance for human trafficking at each and every level, at government level.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I will be leaving that to the critic on our side on this portfolio to give their insight, and will be consulting their stakeholders to get more information about that, to make sure that this bill is strengthened. And if there's anything that we can have for amendment to make sure it should be very effective, we will be getting back to that. With that, I will be adjourning debate on Bill 65, human trafficking Act. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 66

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 66 — *The Pooled Registered Pension Plans (Saskatchewan) Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again it's a pleasure to be on my feet to bring some comments with respect to Bill No. 66, the pooled registered pension plans amendment Act.

As the bill notes, there were a number of federal tax changes that offer variable payment life annuities in pooled registered pension plans. And part of that, this bill I presume is a response to those changes to ensure that there is some congruence. I think generally speaking the prima facie case is that these are welcome changes in provincial level that reflect those changes at the federal level, those changes notably being that funds in these VPLAs, variable payment life annuities, and the credit in them can be seized to make maintenance orders, to pay maintenance orders. They could be treated like any other asset in a divorce, subject to of course a court decision in that case.

And you know, on that point, my office in Silverspring, my assistant, many of my colleagues on this side and I'm certain a number of colleagues on the other side, Mr. Speaker, are dealing with a number of women in vulnerable situations who have found themselves unfortunately either in a breakup of their marriage, more often than not in an abusive relationship, and have recently escaped and going through the court's process to get maintenance orders and in the process to get assets from the divorce in order to provide for their children to maintain a roof over their own heads and food on the table. Any measure that can be used to assist those people, those kids, I think is really important. And I think generally speaking members on this side are in agreement with these changes.

I think it's also important to note that more can be done on this front outside of this. This is a housekeeping change in some respects. But we're not going to stop asking this government to provide more supports and services to victims of interpersonal violence or their children, and also to consumers. Quite frankly there are some protections in this bill for them with respect to creditor protections, and I think that we would generally support as well.

I'll save some of my comments for one of the other bills I'll be speaking to here shortly that is related to Bill No. 66. But with respect to this bill, I will move to adjourn debate on Bill 66. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 67

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 67 — *The Coroners Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again it's a pleasure to be on my feet to provide some words, some thoughts about Bill No. 67, *The Coroners Amendment Act*. Again this appears to be a bit of, on the face of it, a bit of a housekeeping bill. But there are a number of items in here that caught my attention.

I think generally speaking those on this side of the aisle can agree that, you know, we need to shore up the powers and the abilities of the coroners of this province to do their job. It's a difficult job. Having been in law enforcement for 24 years, having attended numerous sudden death cases, I know first-hand, you know, the sensitivity with respect to those situations but also the important job that our coroners across this province have in ensuring that due diligence is done with any sudden death, and that the families involved also deeply appreciate the work that is done by our coroners and the service from their offices. Because they too are searching for answers. They too want to know what's happened with a loved one. They too want to know what happened and why they have passed away, whatever those circumstances are.

So a number of these items I think are, you know, commendable. And I don't think you'll get a lot of concerns from this side of the aisle on that. However I do want to take some time to point out to an amendment being done to section 16(1), which according to the Act will ask police officers, or could ask police officers, to do more on behalf of coroners.

[15:00]

Now we already know coroners are terribly short-staffed and under-resourced in this province. Quite frankly there aren't enough. And I don't think passing this legislation is going to resolve their problem. Yes, it may give them more powers. Yes, it may give them more authorities. It may assist them in executing their duties and responsibilities as coroners.

So for example, 16(1): coroner may obtain assistance from the police service with jurisdiction in the municipality in which the coroners conduct the investigation or inquest, shall give the coroner any assistance the coroner may require, and may obtain assistance from persons other than peace officers for all or part of the investigation or inquest.

Our concern, my concern, I'll tell you: I've been in these shoes; I've done that job; I've been the first to the scene. I've, you know, done first aid on individuals who unfortunately lost their lives at these sudden death scenes. I can say as a police officer I am concerned that this bill may provide for further downloading of responsibilities that a coroner is rightly entrusted to do onto the shoulders of our law enforcement officers.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, as more responsibilities get downloaded onto the shoulders of our law enforcement officers with respect to these sudden death cases, with respect to any case a coroner is required, comes the liability. And the million-dollar question quite frankly is, at what point is the officer liable? Not just with respect to the duties that they are entrusted to perform at a scene, right.

There's a number of items and things and actions that they are required to take as a law enforcement officer, a number of observations they need to make, notes they need to make, reports they need to make, follow-up actions they need to make, next of kins they need to make, etc., etc. I am concerned that now, the way this bill appears to be worded, that this is a slippery slope for them in terms of that coroner's responsibility.

And now will they be expected to perform that duty as well? Whether it be a phone call from the coroner to the officer at the scene, say, "Well you know, while you're there, could you just do this for me? Could you take a photo of that for me? Could you do up a report for me?"

Liability is a serious issue on the part of officers generally speaking, but this is a particularly sensitive and important role that, I think, needs to be separated from law enforcement to some degree. And that's what our coroners service has done and, I think, done professionally, but could be done much better.

And I think what would actually assist in these situations, Mr. Speaker, is a government that's committed to ensuring that our coroners service was properly and adequately staffed to provide the service that this bill intends to improve, actually on the scene where those sudden deaths, where those situations occur.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I will move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 67.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 68

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 68 — *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2026/Loi modificative de 2026 sur l'exécution des ordonnances alimentaires*** be now read a second time.]

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

Hugh Gordon: — Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. Back on my feet to give some words and some thoughts on Bill 68, *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act*.

You know, again I appreciate the intent of this bill. It also seeks to ensure that funds from variable . . . VLPAs — forgot the acronym, quite frankly, but it was mentioned in Bill 66, essentially pension funds — or TFSAs [tax-free savings account] can be taken with respect to those that are in default of maintenance orders. This bill also intends to add fees to any default on these payment orders, ensuring that these fees can be

charged for any action to enforce payment or bad payment or even once the maintenance order ends.

That may be commendable. I'm not certain though, quite frankly. And again this brings me back to the points I was making for Bill 66, Mr. Speaker. My office and a number of my colleagues in their offices deal regularly, sadly, with young mothers with children who are either escaping situations of interpersonal violence or abusive relationships or toxic relationships, toxic divorces. Terribly traumatic events in the lives not just of the couple involved but, I think we can all agree, with the children involved. And having enforcement of maintenance orders is essential.

My office has dealt with a number of cases of this. I know personally women that have unfortunately been put in this position of having a maintenance order but it never gets enforced. I'm not certain what the prescription of an additional fee for not following through and paying a maintenance order, or paying child support, or paying to keep a roof over the head of their ex-spouse and their children, putting food on their table, is going to do.

We don't necessarily oppose levying fees in this regard, but I'm just not certain that that's going to do a whole heck of a lot. Usually these maintenance orders are significant in and of themselves to begin with. They're consequential for the women and the children involved — the spouse and their children involved — and I don't think a fee added onto that is going to compel anyone to take their maintenance orders any more seriously.

But what really is required, Mr. Speaker, what's really needed is more staff and an expansion of the people and the resources in the maintenance enforcement office to make sure that they can get through this stack of maintenance orders and enforce them. Because my understanding is, Mr. Speaker, once action has been taken on a maintenance order for enforcement, it goes pretty smoothly.

There are a number of avenues that the maintenance enforcement office can do to ensure that these things are paid in a timely fashion, whether that's garnisheeing the wages or, as the bill proposes, a VLPA or a TFSA to enforce these orders. So my concern obviously, Mr. Speaker, is that still even with the passage of Bill 68, not enough will be done to get through the pile of requests to deal with maintenance orders that are already outstanding. That's where there's a logjam.

If the government would like to entertain an amendment by the opposition or anyone from that side with respect to adding more people and resources to the maintenance enforcement office, I suspect we will get more support on this side of the aisle, Mr Speaker.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I will conclude my remarks on Bill No. 68. And I move to adjourn debate on Bill 68. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 69

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 69 — *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's again my pleasure and privilege to be on my feet to enter into the debate on Bill No. 69, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2026*.

Mr. Speaker, I was looking through this bill. It's really having a good protection for the people, for keeping the loopholes to make sure that people are not doing that. But I think about it differently. If someone can afford a lawyer, why the person will go to an agent? So this is a thing that I will come back to, the affordability.

So most of the people, they go to an agent on those kinds of things. They do . . . [inaudible] . . . and obviously that can . . . not safe for those persons. And it is not a good practice as well by all means. It might be that it will be not a good decision at the end of the client side as well.

But if a person cannot afford something, then they definitely will have to go. And we know that it's in nature: if you put water on a surface, water always floats towards the lower surface, the lower level. So exactly keeping in view of this one, for how long will we be making laws? If we find something that's wrong, we're following an agent, and then sub-agent, and some people within communities, it will be really a big flaw. I think so.

We should have to know the core problem. What's the core problem is people can't afford it. And we have a very generous community in law firms. We have pro bono. We have so many organizations that, if people can't afford it, they can contact them and they'll help out those low-income people.

Why not we should have to encourage those kinds of firms? We have big law firms in our province, as well in our cities. Why not we should have to ask them if there's something, come voluntarily; they can help out into that one. So that will be really . . . [inaudible] . . . It will stop; it will block all those kind of things. Then we'll be not worried that people are not protected because people are protected. They can find their legal services somehow, somewhere, in some place.

So these are some things that we have to be encouraging into that. Apparently while looking into that, it's like we are making a law inside the law. And I know those people that are in law firms, they know that their agents have a certain limitation. And I don't think so that any lawyer would be giving more than that.

But if we feel or we heard that someone is taking money for something that they are not licensed for that, that's a different story. But definitely I want to say that those people that can afford a lawyer, they will be not going to an agent. They will be not going to anything. But if somebody's doing that, Mr. Speaker, that person will be not very well educated or will be not knowing that. We have to educate people and to make sure we

have to go to the other side of that.

The critics on our side, they will look into that and find it out, and they will consult the stakeholders. With that I will be adjourning debate on Bill 69, *The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2026*. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 70

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Tim McLeod that **Bill No. 70 — *The Legal Profession Consequential Amendment Act, 2026/Loi de 2026 corrélative de la loi intitulée The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again to be entering on debate on Bill No. 70; that's *The Legal Profession Consequential Amendment Act*.

Mr. Speaker, it's very important that we, if we have some regulations before or some legislation, that if we're changing something in that main legislation, the portion of that might be affecting some other areas as well. So it's always good that we have to follow up with those being affected. They should be updated.

Here I can see that small courts should be informed with that legislation as well, that we are bringing that one. And that will be really helpful, and I told it before on Bill 69 the same thing. So with that I will be adjourning debate on Bill 70, *The Legal Profession Consequential Amendment Act, 2026*. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 71

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Lori Carr that **Bill No. 71 — *The Personal Care Homes (Safer Homes for Seniors) Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure and honour to be entering debate on this important piece of legislation. It's very important that we have to respect our seniors, people that they work their whole life and they built this country and they paid their whole life taxes. The infrastructure that we can see, it's built by those people. Absolutely I will 100 per cent agree with that, that they need a life of respect, a life of dignity.

Mr. Speaker, in my constituency we have a lot of seniors. I'm being blessed by having those. But I talk to them during the door knocking and a lot of them they are struggling, Mr. Speaker. I talked to them and they were really having a hard time ever in past.

So they are struggling with the power hikes, the bills that you have, utility bills. And the groceries are surprisingly getting expensive. Those people were telling me, they said that the price of everything went almost two times, three times. And they're really dealing with the pension. The pension is not going with the same raise.

[15:15]

Mr. Speaker, obviously we have to do something to make sure where they are taken care, that place should be really a place where they feel safe, they're comfortable, they can spend the rest of their lives with dignity.

But again, Mr. Speaker, I heard from some seniors that they are already living in their own house. They're not in a care home. So those people really need of some kind of support. Some of them were telling us that in wintertime, it's very hard for us to remove our snow. And sometimes they say, it's very hard for us to make sure we can cut the grass and stuff like that.

And obviously they're not at the age where they can do all those kinds of work, so it is very important that we have to mobilize some kind of volunteering or some kind of organization that they can take care of those seniors. We have a database in helping them out as well.

And obviously those that are not able to live by themselves in their own home, if they can't age themselves in their home, they live in the care homes. Definitely they should have a life of respect as well, and they should be properly treated as well.

And I can see the legislation over here, they put a lot of things over here that there will have to be punishment for $1,000, $2,000, $3,000. Yes, this is okay. I will be okay with that. But I will say that there should be some kind of coordination between the care homes that we can bring those people together and give some kind of training or some kind of education as well, to make sure what they do and then share knowledge. This is the organic way to make sure we can mobilize the forces in health care to make sure they can deliver the services that we want.

But just by punishing people by money and stuff like that, this is not the kind of thing that will work. And the organic thing will be so we can educate people. We want to really go to each and every care home, check it, and if things are not good, we have to make sure we can tell that they need improving in these areas. That will be the organic way.

With that I will say, Mr. Speaker, our critic on this portfolio will be putting his comments on that one by consulting the stakeholders. With that, I will be adjourning debate on Bill

No. 71, *The Personal Care Homes Act*, 2026. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 72

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Jeremy Cockrill that **Bill No. 72 — *The Opioid Damages Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

Speaker Goudy: — I recognize the member from Regina Wascana Plains.

Brent Blakley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On my feet again to continue debate on Bill No. 72, *The Opioid Damages Amendment Act, 2026*. Mr. Speaker, this bill encompasses legal tools that the government has in dealing with the opioid crisis in the province. The government can use legal means to force drug companies to recover costs incurred to the health care system by people wrongfully taking or given opioids. Lawsuits can be on an individual or aggregate basis. The government can compel medical records to be submitted.

We support any measures to make drug companies accountable for actions that they are responsible for. Again, you only have to watch the news each day to see the level that the opioid crisis has reached in this province. But, Mr. Speaker, an opioid crisis doesn't just happen. There are underlying reasons people turn to drugs to cope.

Mr. Speaker, also associated with this opioid crisis in Saskatchewan is crime. And again we see a government that has no measures in place to address the root causes of crime in the province. I think taking care of the root causes in crime would go a lot to diminishing that crime rather than just having boots on the ground.

But with that, Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 72, *The Opioid Damages Amendment Act, 2026*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 73

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Jeremy Cockrill that **Bill No. 73 — *The Medical Assistance in Dying Additional Safeguards Act*** be now read a second time.]

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

Kim Breckner: — Mr. Speaker, I wish today to enter into the debate on Bill No. 73, *The Medical Assistance in Dying Additional Safeguards Act*. Medical assistance in dying is a very serious topic, and it's because of the seriousness of this — and like how we treat any other legislation that comes before this legislature — it's important that we consult with the stakeholders and ensure that this legislation meets the mark.

I'm interested to learn more about how this legislation differs from what's already been implemented federally as it's not immediately obvious. And we would be interested in knowing if there has been any occurrences of medical assistance in dying being provided to youth or people whose sole basis is mental health.

I know that my colleague, MLA Roy, put in a written question on the subject and she was told she would have to wait six months for a response. So it must be that this government doesn't have that information on hand. And again, I see that as a case of the government making changes before consulting. We saw that with the change to the chronic wasting disease testing program and we've seen it in other cases.

And that's why it's so important to the people of Saskatchewan — to ease the anxiety and to ensure that we're doing the right thing as government — to consult before we take action and make sure that we've got it right the first time.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I wish to move to adjourn debate on Bill No. 73, *The Medical Assistance in Dying Additional Safeguards Act*.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried.

Bill No. 74

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff that **Bill No. 74 — *The Workers' Compensation (Strengthening Compensation Outcomes) Amendment Act, 2026*** be now read a second time.]

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

Noor Burki: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is again my pleasure to be entering into a debate on Bill No. 74, *The Workers' Compensation (Strengthening Compensation Outcomes) Amendment Act, 2026*.

Mr. Speaker, it's a really good legislation that workers should be always taken care. And most of the organizations, companies, private businesses, they are very happily, generously want to pay their Workers' Compensation contribution. And at the end of the day they expect the same thing — that whenever something happens to their employee or their worker, they should be compensated properly as well.

But, Mr. Speaker, I will share one story. Back in 2012 one of my

driving instructors, fellow instructors got in a collision and he went on WCB [Workers' Compensation Board]. And he was expecting that he will be getting that much money that he can run his kitchen, but the money was so small, so less, that he come back to work. And even though he was not feeling well, but he started working as well.

Mr. Speaker, we have to make sure, we have to be accommodating people that they can run their day-to-day things easily, not being forcing back to come to work, Mr. Speaker. And obviously if you're not taking care of workers, obviously will be not getting output from them, what they are doing over there.

So, Mr. Speaker, it's good legislation that we are doing that. But before that I will be saying, Mr. Speaker, we need at this time to make sure we have to again come to those kind of organization training sessions to make sure that these things should not be happening in the first place. If something's happening, any injuries happen, there will be somehow, someway, some reason that has been neglected or been ignored.

So this is something that I caught. When we're talking about putting everything on WCB, that they will be collecting money and they will pay back. We should have to protect those things in the first place to make sure we can educate those people, explain, and make some legislation that those organizations should be checked once or twice in a month so they have proper equipment for the worker, what they are using, they're safety as well.

And I know, Mr. Speaker, that life is one of the most important and precious things ever. No money is compensation of that. Life, we got one time. There is no replacement. Life is one of the most precious and life is something that we can't compromise on that, just one time gift, Mr. Speaker.

So we make sure we have to look into that. We have to protect our workers as well. And financial compensation, yes, that will help out at least so they can be staying at home if they're injured, if they're sick, if they're ill, so they can stay at home. But I heard that from many people at doorstep as well, that their day-to-day expenses are not being covered by WCB fully.

So with that I will be adjourning debate on this bill, the Bill 74, worker compensation strengthening compensation outcome amendment, 2026. Thank you.

Speaker Goudy: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. 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, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Assembly do now adjourn.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Speaker Goudy: — Carried. Before adjournment, I just want to mention that today's the 150th anniversary for the library and we're all invited there at 3:30. LG [Lieutenant Governor] will be there at 3:50 for a short ceremony. And so come celebrate the library.

This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:25.]

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