



FIRST SESSION — THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 37

Monday, May 12, 2025

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following members: Jordan McPhail, Matt Love, and Betty Nippi-Albright.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to order and pursuant to rule 16(7), petitions from residents of the province of Saskatchewan, requesting the following action, were read and received:

To address and work with vulnerable communities in the North and rural areas, and to provide adequate mental health funding and services for northern and rural Indigenous communities.

(Sessional paper no. 146)

To meaningfully address the affordability crisis in Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 25)

To immediately implement a comprehensive affordable housing strategy aimed at helping individuals and families in securing stable and affordable housing.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 37)

To immediately renew the Federal-Provincial Child Care Agreement to save jobs, help families and boost our economy.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 94)

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

The Assembly, according to order, resolved itself into the Committee of Finance.

Summary of resolutions adopted:

GENERAL REVENUE FUND

MAIN ESTIMATES 2025–26

EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2026 the following sums:

BUDGETARY EXPENSES

1. For Advanced Education.....	\$788,031,000
2. For Agriculture	\$623,068,000
3. For Corrections, Policing and Public Safety	\$798,361,000
4. For Education.....	\$3,080,656,000
5. For Energy and Resources	\$54,483,000
6. For Environment	\$273,700,000
7. For Executive Council	\$13,314,000
8. For Finance	\$343,232,000
9. For Firearms Secretariat	\$8,757,000
10. For Government Relations	\$780,921,000
11. For Health	\$8,079,603,000
12. For Highways	\$777,417,000
13. For Immigration and Career Training.....	\$152,376,000

14. For Innovation Saskatchewan	\$32,537,000
15. For Justice and Attorney General.....	\$247,943,000
16. For Labour Relations and Workplace Safety	\$21,694,000
17. For Parks, Culture and Sport.....	\$100,437,000
18. For Public Service Commission.....	\$48,153,000
19. For Saskatchewan Research Council.....	\$19,423,000
20. For SaskBuilds and Procurement.....	\$155,339,000
21. For SaskBuilds Corporation.....	\$25,000,000
22. For Social Services	\$1,617,579,000
23. For Tourism Saskatchewan.....	\$19,278,000
24. For Trade and Export Development	\$44,268,000
25. For Water Security Agency.....	\$99,407,000

LENDING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES

26. For Advanced Education.....	\$80,000,000
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND THE OFFICERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

27. For Advocate for Children and Youth	\$2,999,000
28. For Conflict of Interest Commissioner	\$595,000
29. For Information and Privacy Commissioner.....	\$2,654,000
30. For Legislative Assembly	\$11,908,000
31. For Ombudsman and Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner	\$4,652,000
32. For Provincial Auditor	\$10,772,000

GENERAL REVENUE FUND

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (NO. 2) 2024–25

EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to His Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2025 the following sums:

BUDGETARY EXPENSES

1. For Advanced Education.....	\$26,433,000
2. For Agriculture	\$93,125,000
3. For Corrections, Policing and Public Safety	\$78,413,000
4. For Education.....	\$54,000,000
5. For Energy and Resources	\$4,151,000
6. For Finance	\$19,221,000
7. For Firearms Secretariat.....	\$1,463,000
8. For Health	\$502,900,000
9. For Highways.....	\$61,831,000
10. For Immigration and Career Training.....	\$3,600,000
11. For Innovation Saskatchewan	\$790,000
12. For Labour Relations and Workplace Safety	\$1,400,000
13. For Saskatchewan Research Council.....	\$22,000,000
14. For SaskBuilds and Procurement.....	\$3,731,000
15. For Social Services.....	\$50,000,000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND THE OFFICERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

16. For Advocate for Children and Youth	\$189,000
17. For Conflict of Interest Commissioner	\$100,000
18. For Information and Privacy Commissioner.....	\$140,000
19. For Legislative Assembly	\$225,000
20. For Ombudsman and Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner	\$243,000

On motion of the Hon. Jim Reiter:

Resolved, That towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025, the sum of nine hundred twenty-three million, nine hundred fifty-five thousand dollars be granted out of the general revenue fund.

On motion of the Hon. Jim Reiter:

Resolved, That towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026, the sum of eighteen billion, three hundred eighteen million, five hundred fifty-seven thousand dollars be granted out of the general revenue fund.

The said resolutions were reported, read twice and agreed to, and the committee given leave to sit again.

The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1)

Moved by the Hon. Jim Reiter: That Bill No. 23 — The Appropriation Act, 2025 (No. 1) be now introduced and read the first time.

The question being put, it was agreed to and the said bill was accordingly read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly and pursuant to rule 32(1)(e), the said bill was then read a second and third time and passed under its title on division.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE ASSEMBLY

Moved by the Hon. Tim McLeod:

That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded division:

YEAS — 33

Scott Moe	Daryl Harrison	Warren Kaeding	David Marit	Jeremy Cockrill
Jim Reiter	Everett Hindley	Jeremy Harrison	Terry Jenson	Colleen Young
Ken Cheveldayoff	Travis Keisig	James Thorsteinson	Jamie Martens	Racquel Hilbert
Doug Steele	Eric Schmalz	Alana Ross	Tim McLeod	Lori Carr
Sean Wilson	Kevin Weedmark	Chris Beaudry	Blaine McLeod	Brad Crassweller
Barret Kropf	Michael Weger	Megan Patterson	Terri Bromm	Darlene Rowden
David Chan	Kim Gartner	Kevin Kasun		

NAYS — 21

Carla Beck	Erika Ritchie	Noor Burki	Vicki Mowat	Trent Wotherspoon
Matt Love	Nathaniel Teed	Aleana Young	Leroy Laliberte	Jordan McPhail

Nicole Sarauer	Brent Blakley	Tajinder Grewal	April ChiefCalf	Keith Jorgenson
Bhajan Brar	Darcy Warrington	Joan Pratchler	Sally Housser	Brittney Senger
Jacqueline Roy				

The Assembly adjourned at 3:23 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Todd Goudy
Speaker

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 33 and are to be answered by day no. 38:

Question no. 6 (Keith Jorgenson):

To the Minister of Health, (a) what are the staff ratios for each long-term care facility funded by the SHA; (b) how many FTE staff are employed at each long-term care facility funded by the SHA; (c) how many beds are there — including occupied and vacant — at each long-term care facility funded by the SHA; (d) what number of beds consists of maximum occupancy at Cozy Nest Care Home; and (e) what is the total cost of the contract with Cozy Nest Care Home at maximum occupancy?

Question no. 7 (Aleana Young):

To the Minister of Immigration and Career Training, (a) what changes were made to the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program from the 2024–25 to the 2025–26 fiscal years; (b) what is the new annual target number of immigrants for the Saskatchewan immigrant nominee program; (c) which countries or regions are being prioritized for immigration in 2025–26; (d) how many instances of immigration fraud were detected in 2024–25; (e) how many immigrants/companies are currently under investigation for fraud; (f) how many social services clients did ICT employees meet with in 2024–25 to create action plans to support their career development goals and connection to the labour market; (g) how many social services clients do ICT employees expect to meet with in 2025–26; and (h) of the immigrants that came to Saskatchewan in 2024–25, how many have taken additional career training, and how many have found employment?

Question no. 8 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the cost for each of SaskPower's future supply plan scenarios published by the government in the document *Supply Planning Overview PowerPoint*?

Question no. 9 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the range of borrowing necessary to cover SaskPower's capital costs for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 10 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the current valuation of SaskPower's infrastructure deficit for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 11 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the annual cost of routine maintenance and infrastructure sustainment for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 12 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the timeline of SaskPower's borrowing costs for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 13 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, does the net income projection for 2025–26 include funding from Ottawa's future electricity fund, the province's clean electricity transition grant?

Question no. 14 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) in the absence of the future electricity fund and CETGs, what would SaskPower's 2024–25 net income be; and (b) in the absence of the future electricity fund and

CETGs, what would SaskPower's revenue forecasts be for (i) 2025–26, (ii) 2026–27, (iii) 2027–28, (iv) 2028–29, and (v) 2029–30?

Question no. 15 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is SaskPower's projected debt for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 16 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what rate increases have been budgeted by SaskPower to hit its ROE range, and (b) what revenue increase will be required for SaskPower to hit its ROE range?

Question no. 17 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is SaskPower projecting the increase in the OBPS carbon tax in (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

Question no. 18 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what are the numbers for total capital spending, capital spending on generation, capital spending on transmission, and capital spending on distribution for (i) 2025–26, (ii) 2026–27, (iii) 2027–28, (iv) 2028–29, and (v) 2029–30; (b) what capital projects above \$500,000 have been planned for (i) 2025–26, (ii) 2026–27, (iii) 2027–28, (iv) 2028–29, and (v) 2029–30; and (c) what capital projects are above \$10M in the generation, transmission, and distribution categories of capital spending?

Question no. 19 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the value of SaskPower's forecasted capital program in (a) 2026–27, (b) 2027–28, (c) 2028–29, (d) 2029–30, and (e) 2030–31?

Question no. 20 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the escalation from Chinook to Great Plains, and Great Plains to Aspen?

Question no. 21 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what is the cost of service for each customer class for (i) 2021–22, (ii) 2022–23, (iii) 2023–24, (iv) 2024–25, and (v) 2025–26; and (b) what is the projected cost of service for each customer class for (i) 2026–27, (ii) 2027–28, (iii) 2028–29, (iv) 2029–30, and (v) 2030–31?

Question no. 22 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) how much in incremental debt would be required to fund the initial SMR; (b) how much has been spent to date on SMR-related activities; (c) how much SMR activity has been funded by Ottawa through the clean electricity transition grants; (d) how much SMR activity has been funded by the OBPS; and (e) what is the expected cost of each SMR?

Question no. 23 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what is the investment being made this year into engineering, design, and procurement for the coal-refurb project for 2025–2026; and (b) what capital spending has been targeted to the coal refurbishment project for (i) 2026–27, (ii) 2027–28, (iii) 2028–29, (iv) 2029–30, and (v) 2030–2031?

Question no. 24 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what additional tariffs on imports have been undertaken by the Crown as it relates to the southwest power pool transmission line?

Question no. 25 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, the 2023–24 annual report noted that SaskPower was launching competitive procurement processes for 600 MW of new renewable generation — consisting of 200 MW solar generation and 400 MW wind generation — to be located in south-central Saskatchewan; what is the status of this competitive procurement process?

Question no. 26 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, as of March 5, 2025, were/are American firms eligible to bid on SaskPower procurement processes?

Question no. 27 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) how many renewable projects are planned for (i) 2025–26, (ii) 2026–27, (iii) 2027–28, (iv) 2028–29, and (v) 2029–30; and (b) which renewable projects are planned for (i) 2025–26, (ii) 2026–27, (iii) 2027–28, (iv) 2028–29, and (v) 2029–30?

Question no. 28 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, is SaskPower still committed to its stated plan for net-zero by 2050?

Question no. 29 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the number of GWH sold to each of your six major customer classes in 2024–25?

Question no. 30 (Aleana Young):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what are the projected GWH sales SaskPower is forecasting for (a) 2025–26, (b) 2026–27, (c) 2027–28, (d) 2028–29, and (e) 2029–30?

The following questions were given notice on day no. 34 and are to be answered by day no. 39:

Question no. 31 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what portion of sub-vote SP01 is associated with EBMP, also known as GEMS; (b) what work remains outstanding on the EBMP/GEMS system capital project; (c) what individual software systems are part of the EBMP/GEMS system, and who are their respective corporate developers/owners; (d) what was the initial capital cost of this system when it was first approved by the Government of Saskatchewan; (e) what was the final capital cost of the EBMP/GEMS system when it was completed and amortized, or, if it has not been completed and amortized, what is the total capital cost to date; (f) does the EBMP/GEMS system use the same software as the Ministry of Health's AIMS system; (g) which companies were involved in the development of the EBMP system during (i) proposal or concept development, (ii) purchase of the software, (iii) development of the system, and (iv) integration with other government systems and software; (h) which ministry is responsible for the operation of the EBMP/GEMS system; and (i) how much has each company been paid, to date, for their work on the EBMP/GEMS system?

Question no. 32 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) what are the comparative office equipment and information allocations between 2024–25 and 2025–26; (b) what budget has been allocated to each ministry for new equipment in 2025–26; (c) what procurements in 2025–26 are through public tenders, sole-source contracts, and special arrangements, broken down on a dollar basis and by percentage; and (d) what sole-source contracts over \$20M are budgeted to be issued in 2025–26?

Question no. 33 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what SaskBuilds and Procurement contracts issued in 2024–25 have specific requirements for northern or Indigenous ownership, and what were the individual requirements?

Question no. 34 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) how many cybersecurity incidents did the executive government experience during 2024–25; (b) how many privacy breaches occurred in executive government in 2024–25 where personal information of either clients or staff was obtained by an external party; (c) how many computers in executive government were infected with computer viruses and had to be disinfected/rebuilt in 2024–25; and (d) how many instances of blackmail that resulted in computers being virtually seized by external parties occurred in 2023–24 concerning executive government computers or software systems?

Question no. 35 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what percentage, by value, of the work/services/capital goods paid for by the Government of Saskatchewan are purchased from Saskatchewan companies, and what percentage, by value, is from out-of-Saskatchewan organizations in 2024–25?

Question no. 36 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) how many contracts were awarded last year concerning the use of aircraft; (b) what type of airline of aircraft service were each of those contracts for; and (c) how many existing contracts for airline or aircraft services are there?

Question no. 37 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, (a) how much money has been allocated for the process of starting the College Avenue Campus renewal in 2025–26; and (b) is this project currently incorporated into debt projections over the next five years?

Question no. 38 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, what is the most recent projection for the cost of the Prince Albert Victoria Hospital expansion?

Question no. 39 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Government of Saskatchewan, how much money was allocated in the 2024–25 budget for the design of the first phase of the Lake Diefenbaker Irrigation Project?

Question no. 40 (Erika Ritchie):

To the Minister Responsible for the Water Security Agency, (a) broken down by wetland class 1–5, how many acres of Crown land are on inventory along the bed and bank of the existing inventory of the purported 86 per cent retained wetlands in Saskatchewan; (b) what is the estimated monetary value of these Crown lands; and (c) what provisions are in place to protect the Crown's interests (monetary, ecological, etc.) in these lands?

Question no. 41 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, for the capital budget allocation for Saskatchewan provincial parks, what projects exceeding \$250,000 in estimated value are included in the capital budget allocation for 2025–26?

Question no. 42 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) what private business operations were either approved or contracted for work with the provincial parks in 2024; and (b) what new private business operations are planned for the provincial parks in 2025–26, and which park is each new business operation planned to operate in?

Question no. 43 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) has the veteran service club support program been cancelled; (b) if the veteran service club support program is still in operation, how much was budgeted in 2024–25 and now in 2025–26, and how much of the budget in 2024–25 was actually spent; and (c) which groups in which communities received money under the veteran service club support program in 2024–25, and which groups will receive money in 2025–26?

Question no. 44 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) how much money is budgeted for the community rink affordability grant program in 2025–26; and (b) who received money from the program in 2024–25?

Question no. 45 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, how many heritage reviews or evaluations were conducted in 2024–25?

Question no. 46 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, how much in subsidies will be provided to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in 2025–26?

Question no. 47 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) how much in subsidies will be provided to the T-Rex Discovery Centre in 2025–26; (b) who owns and operates the T-Rex Discovery Centre; and (c) how much of the T-Rex Discovery Centre's overall operating budget is covered by government subsidies?

Question no. 48 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) how many buildings does the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) use to house its collections that are not on display, and where are those buildings located; (b) what would best quantify how frequently the collections and materials routinely stored in these buildings are used/presented (at least annually), as opposed to simply stored (less than 10 per cent of the time, less than 5 per cent of the time, etc.); and (c) are there any major excavation projects presently underway at the RSM concerning dinosaurs?

Question no. 49 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, how much of the funding for the Saskatchewan Science Centre comes from their provincial grant (provide in percentage format if possible)?

Question no. 50 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) what heritage organizations in the 2024–25 budget allocation also received funding in 2025–26; and (b) what heritage organizations in the 2024–25 budget allocation received funding in 2023–24, and what funding did they receive in 2024–25?

Question no. 51 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, what are the general budget lines and/or major expenditures of the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation?

Question no. 52 (Darcy Warrington):

To the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, (a) who paid for the screen system that was installed at the John Hopkins Regina Soundstage, and were any government funds used to do so; and (b) how many days was the soundstage in use in (i) 2023–24 and (ii) 2024–25?

The following questions were given notice on day no. 35 and are to be answered by day no. 40:

Question no. 53 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, what is the total cost of the e-justice project to date?

Question no. 54 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, what are the number of Aboriginal court workers currently employed through the ten carrier agencies funded through the Ministry of Justice?

Question no. 55 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, what is the percentage increase of staff at Legal Aid?

Question no. 56 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, (a) what are the number of inspections done by highway patrol officers in the last calendar year; and (b) what is the number of inspections done by highway patrol officers since the Highway Patrol came under the umbrella of the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety?

Question no. 57 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, what is the status of the North Battleford drug treatment court, announced in last year's budget?

Question no. 58 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, how many criminal prosecution files in Saskatchewan were stayed due to the R. v. Jordan decision on delay in the past calendar year?

Question no. 59 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, what is the status of the J-STAR system upgrade?

Question no. 60 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, how many students participated in the College of Law's experiential learning program that is funded by the Ministry of Justice so far?

Question no. 61 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, will the ministry be facilitating another domestic violence death review panel in this fiscal year?

Question no. 62 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, how many times have mediation fees been waived for the mandatory mediation requirement for family law files?

Question no. 63 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, how many Gladue reports were ordered in the past calendar year?

Question no. 64 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, (a) how much overtime was used by correctional services staff in the past fiscal year; (b) how much sick time was used by correctional services staff in the past fiscal year; and (c) how much overtime was used by staff of the Legislative District Security Unit in the past fiscal year?

Question no. 65 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, (a) in what city is the Chief Marshal's office located; (b) is there a residency clause within the collective bargaining agreement for the marshals (if so, what does it say); (c) where are all of the current marshals deemed residencies; (d) are the marshals allowed to take their designated commercial vehicles home; and (e) what are the overtime obligations as required in the collective bargaining agreement for the marshals?

Question no. 66 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, how much money was spent on fire suppression and mitigation by the SPSA this year, and how much is budgeted for this fiscal year?

Question no. 67 (Nicole Sarauer):

To the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, how many women have been housed at the Saskatoon Tribal Council transitional housing facility located in Saskatoon in the past fiscal year, how many total beds are available, and how many women have completed the program?