

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
February 25, 1993

The Assembly met at 10 a.m.

Prayers

PROROGATION

At 10:02 a.m. Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber and took her seat upon the Throne.

Her Honour was then pleased to deliver the following speech:

Mr. Speaker,

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is my duty to relieve you of further attendance at this Legislative Assembly. In so doing, I wish to thank you for and congratulate you on the work you have done.

As we embarked upon this session my government did not falter at the massive task ahead. My government has set a new direction for Saskatchewan in time of unprecedented economic challenge.

With the confidence and the cooperation of Saskatchewan people, we have embarked together on the voyage of rebuilding the Saskatchewan economy, returning common sense and competence to the management of the public treasury, restoring public faith in the political process and renewing the hope of our people for the future of this great province.

Recognizing that long-term stability is central to our farm economy, you have passed amendments to The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act to provide for the six-year leaseback program to enable farmers who have lost their farms to banks and lenders to remain on the land.

You have approved amendments to The Community Bonds Act and The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act. These program changes will encourage further investment in communities throughout this province.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Financial Management Review Commission you have approved changes to The Financial Administration Act which set a new standard for the timely release of government financial information. In accordance with the spirit of this legislation the *Public Accounts* for the year ending March 1992 were publicly released on October 30.

You have approved legislation which establishes SaskEnergy as a new and free-standing Crown corporation with reporting obligations to this Assembly. In accordance with this legislation and the recommendations of the Financial Management Review Commission, SaskEnergy has for the first time tabled its annual report in this legislature.

Accessibility of government has been further enhanced by amendments to The Ombudsman Act which increase the scope of the Ombudsman's review of government

actions and decisions.

Further, you have demonstrated a strong commitment to public participation and consultation with the introduction for first reading of The Personal Property Security Act, 1992, The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 1992, The Local Improvements Act, 1992, and The Occupational Health and Safety Amendment Act.

Additionally, The Charter of Environmental Rights and Responsibilities has been the subject of a public hearing process by your recently established Standing Committee on the Environment. This public review process will ensure that future legislative initiatives appropriately reflect the needs and aspirations of our people and their communities.

You have approved amendments to The Clean Air Act, The Environmental Management and Protection Act, and The Ozone-depleting Substances Control Act to ensure that potentially harmful activities are carefully monitored and that infractions are dealt with effectively.

To enhance our stewardship and enjoyment of our natural resources and wildlife, you have passed amendments to The Parks Act and The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act.

You have demonstrated your determination to pioneer the next phase of health care. You have repealed The Health Research Act in order to facilitate the creation of the Health Services Utilization and Research Commission.

You have implemented several initiatives designed to create a more responsive and sensitive justice system, including amendments to The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, The Victims of Crime Act, and The Criminal Injuries Compensation Act.

Consumer protection in real estate transactions has been significantly enhanced by amendments to The Real Estate Brokers Act.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Pension Benefits Review Panel, you have approved legislation improving pension plan standards, enhancing portability provisions and extending eligibility for part-time workers.

You have acted on the recommendations of the Construction Industry Advisory Committee and approved a new Construction Industry Labour Relations Act which establishes a special framework for province-wide collective bargaining in the construction industry and encourages the resolution of disputes by means other than strikes and lock-outs.

I thank you for the provision you have made to meet the further requirements of the public service and I assure you that this sum of money will be used economically, prudently and in the public interest.

So in taking leave of you, I congratulate you for the manner in which you have devoted your energies to the

activities for the session and wish you the full blessing of Providence.

Hon. Mr. Tchorzewski: — Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislative Assembly, it is the will and pleasure of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until later this day, the 25th of February, 1993 at 3 p.m., and this Legislative Assembly is prorogued accordingly at this time.

Her Honour then retired from the Chamber at 10:09 a.m.