



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

of the

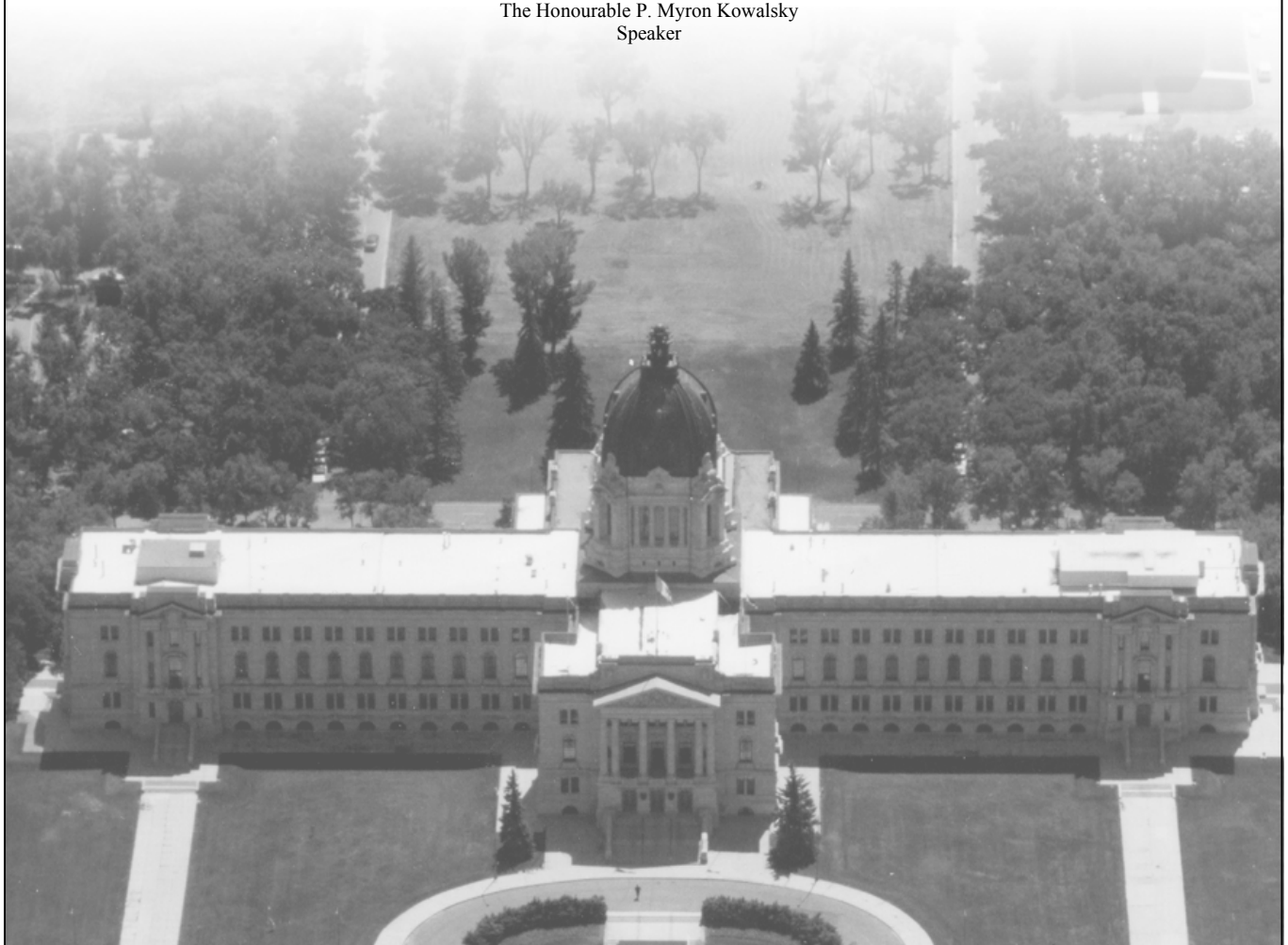
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of

The Honourable P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
 Premier — Hon. Lorne Calvert
 Leader of the Opposition — Brad Wall

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Addley, Graham	NDP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Allchurch, Denis	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Atkinson, Hon. Pat	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Bakken Lackey, Brenda	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Beatty, Hon. Joan	NDP	Cumberland
Belanger, Hon. Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, Bob	SP	Melville-Saltcoats
Borgerson, Lon	NDP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Brkich, Greg	SP	Arm River-Watrous
Calvert, Hon. Lorne	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Chisholm, Michael	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
Cline, Hon. Eric	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Crofford, Hon. Joanne	NDP	Regina Rosemont
D'Autremont, Dan	SP	Cannington
Dearborn, Jason	SP	Kindersley
Draude, June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, Hon. David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Gantfoer, Rod	SP	Melfort
Hagel, Glenn	NDP	Moose Jaw North
Hamilton, Doreen	NDP	Regina Wascana Plains
Harpauer, Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harper, Ron	NDP	Regina Northeast
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Ben	SP	Martensville
Hermanson, Elwin	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Higgins, Hon. Deb	NDP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Huyghebaert, Yogi	SP	Wood River
Iwanchuk, Andy	NDP	Saskatoon Fairview
Junor, Judy	NDP	Saskatoon Eastview
Kerpan, Allan	SP	Carrot River Valley
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Kowalsky, Hon. P. Myron	NDP	Prince Albert Carlton
Krawetz, Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
Lautermilch, Eldon	NDP	Prince Albert Northcote
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMorris, Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Ted	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
Morgan, Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Morin, Sandra	NDP	Regina Walsh Acres
Nilson, Hon. John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Prebble, Hon. Peter	NDP	Saskatoon Greystone
Quennell, Hon. Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Serby, Hon. Clay	NDP	Yorkton
Sonntag, Hon. Maynard	NDP	Meadow Lake
Stewart, Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Taylor, Hon. Len	NDP	The Battlefords
Thomson, Hon. Andrew	NDP	Regina South
Toth, Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Hon. Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Wakefield, Milton	SP	Lloydminster
Wall, Brad	SP	Swift Current
Wartman, Hon. Mark	NDP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Yates, Kevin	NDP	Regina Dewdney

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member from Moosomin.

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure this afternoon to present a petition to the Assembly. And I read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

This petition comes and is raised in regards to the contract of Jim Fergusson. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Cypress Hills.

Mr. Elhard: — Mr. Speaker, I present a similar petition outlining the concerns of people with the consulting contract provided to the former CEO [chief executive officer] of the Saskatoon Regional Health Authority. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by individuals from the city of Saskatoon proper.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Rosetown-Elrose.

Mr. Hermanson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition on behalf of staff, participants, and families of the Wheatland Regional Centre and other like centres across the province that provide services for individuals with disabilities. Mr. Speaker, they are concerned about a human resources plan that they have presented to the government. And the prayer of the petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners will humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly will please consider implementing the minimum compensation recommendations for staff members who support people with disabilities as outlined in SARC's human resources plan.

And, Mr. Speaker, a number of signatures on this petition, all

from the community of Beechy, and I'm pleased to present it on their behalf.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition regarding the contract for Jim Fergusson, and the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary actions to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, these signatures on this petition come from people in Saskatoon. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Weyburn-Big Muddy.

Ms. Bakken Lackey: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition on behalf of constituents of Weyburn-Big Muddy who are very concerned about the state of health care in our constituency. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that facilities providing health care services in the constituency of Weyburn-Big Muddy are not closed or further downsized.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And the petition is signed by residents of Radville and Bengough. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Silver Springs.

Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to present a petition to cancel the consulting contract of the former CEO of the Saskatoon Regional Health Authority, Jim Fergusson. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

The petitioners today reside in Saskatoon. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Arm River.

Mr. Brkich: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition here with citizens that are calling on the government to repair and resurface Highway 15 from the junction of Highway 11 east to the junction of Highway No. 2.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to ensure that this portion of 15 Highway be repaired and resurfaced immediately so as remove the safety hazards to all motorists who rely on this vital road for transportation and economic purposes.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by good citizens from the town of Hanley. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Biggar.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present another petition to revisit the effects of the TransGas Asquith natural gas storage project. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to immediately address the concerns of all individuals affected by this project, pay 100 per cent of the costs involved to rectify disruptions to water supplies, produce an environment assessment study encompassing a larger area outside the scope of the project, disclose the project's long-term effects on these areas, and consider alternative sources of water for the project.

And as is duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by the good citizens of Saskatoon and Grandora. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Carrot River Valley.

Mr. Kerpan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today on behalf of the citizens of Saskatchewan who are concerned with the contract, the consulting contract for former CEO, Jim Fergusson, of Saskatoon Regional Health Authority. And the prayer reads as follows, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, signed by the most excellent constituents of Saskatoon.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Northwest.

Mr. Merriman: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to present a petition about the excessive contract of CEO Jim Fergusson in Saskatoon. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners ever pray.

Signed by the people of Martensville and Saskatoon.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Southeast.

Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I rise too regarding the growing outrage over the contract of Jim Fergusson. I'll read the prayer for relief, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by Saskatoon residents from a number seats and constituencies that are now held by the NDP [New Democratic Party], at least for the time being. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Last Mountain-Touchwood.

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to be able to present a petition on behalf of Saskatchewan citizens who are very concerned with the consulting contract that was given to the former CEO of the Saskatoon Regional Health Authority. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that the consulting contract is immediately terminated.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signatures to this petition, Mr. Speaker, come from Saskatoon. I so present.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

Deputy Clerk: — According to order the following petitions have been reviewed and pursuant to rule 14(7) are hereby read and received:

A petition concerning reintroduction of recycling of plastics within the Carlton Trail Regional Authority;

A petition concerning compensation recommendations for staff members who support people with disabilities outlined in SARC's human resource plan — that's sessional paper 798;

And addendums to previously tabled petitions being sessional paper nos. 72, 96, 107, 637, 639, 666, and 716.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for

Martensville.

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that I shall on day no. 105 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: how much is SGI budgeting for advertising the safe driving recognition program in the year 2005?

And I have similar questions for the previous three years.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Batoche.

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that I shall on day no. 105 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Finance: does the department currently provide tax incentives or tax refunds to homeowners for the installation of geothermal heating and cooling systems? If so, how much has been paid out through this incentive program?

Thank you.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Last Mountain-Touchwood.

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on day 105 I will ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: for the year 2005, how many staff members in the Department of Industry and Resources were working on the issue of the Kyoto accord and its impact on the province of Saskatchewan? If these employees were not employed strictly for this purpose, what percentage of their time was spent on developing a plan to help Saskatchewan meet its Kyoto objectives?

Mr. Speaker, I have similar questions for 2004, 2003, 2002. And, Mr. Speaker, I also have a similar set of questions to the Minister of Environment, the Minister of Agriculture, and the Minister Responsible for SPMC [Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation].

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Qu'Appelle Valley.

Hon. Mr. Wartman: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce to you and through you a couple of young men who I think exemplify why we are so fond of saying here that the world needs a little more Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, seated in your gallery with ministerial assistant, Dan Drackett, are Ryan Anderson. Ryan who is a constituent of mine and a fourth year student at the University of Regina where he's majoring in sports administration. Ryan is a long-time member of the university of Rams football club and

son of a couple of long time friends of mine as well, Don and Bev. Seated with Ryan is Kris Gendall, and Kris's family are up behind Kris.

Kris, is also from Regina, is completing his senior year at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia where among many other activities, including volunteering at the campus radio station, he's majoring in chemistry.

Mr. Speaker, these two young men could be spending their summer in many different ways, but instead they have chosen to use it to work with the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan to raise awareness about that disease.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me today in welcoming Kris and his family, and Ryan to this Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, seated in your gallery are four individuals that I'd like to introduce to all members in the Legislative Assembly. They are Mary Ann McFadyen, Warren Michelson, Larry Seiferling, and Don Richardson. All four of these individuals represent the Saskatchewan Business Council.

I'd ask all members to join me in welcoming them to the Legislative Assembly this afternoon.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Massey Place.

Hon. Mr. Cline: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister Responsible for Industry and Resources in our province, I'd like to join the official opposition in acknowledging and welcoming the members of the Business Council and we certainly value their input. Thank you.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Melville-Saltcoats.

Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you to the members today, I'd like to introduce two very good friends of mine. Esther and George Haas, who farm along the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border, are in town on business and getting ready to do their spring seeding. So I would ask all members to welcome them here today and wish them the best of luck with their spring seeding.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Walsh Acres.

Administrative Professionals Day

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today is Administrative Professionals Day, a day set aside to express our gratitude for the hard work and invaluable contributions that administrative professionals provide on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, behind every successful office there is an efficient and dedicated staff . . . of administrative support staff. In today's high speed, demanding, and technical world the role of the administrative professional is ever-changing and becoming increasingly dynamic.

Aside from handling the mail, answering telephones, writing letters, and sending emails and faxes, administrative professionals play an essential role in public relations. Whether they're greeting our constituents over the phone or in person, or maintaining a solid working relationship with our colleagues and various organizations and institutions, our administrative professionals are the backbone of our offices. They ensure that the day-to-day business runs smoothly, and quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, we couldn't function without them.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of all administrative professionals throughout the province and commend them for their tireless efforts and commitment. Thank you to all of our constituency assistants and the administrative professionals in our caucus office, Jannet, Margaret, and Gail. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[13:45]

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Martensville.

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too today would like to join in the recognition of the Administrative Professionals Day. It is the recognition of the terrific work that all our administrative professionals do.

Recognition of this day was started in 1952, and 53 years later our administrative professionals still file papers, conduct research, produce reports, and get us to our appointments.

But they do much more than that, Mr. Speaker. They are often the glue that holds a busy office together. Without them, offices cannot function. Sometimes they are unappreciated, but their work is invaluable. They are the very first person you see when you walk into your office in the morning. They are always there with a smile, professional attitude, and a great work ethic.

I want to thank our two very capable professionals in our office, Sylvie Toffan and Joanne Gilewicz, and my constituency assistant, Whitney Friesen, for their fantastic and much needed work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Wascana Plains.

Gearing Up for Alzheimer's Disease

Ms. Hamilton: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As our Minister of Ag and Food has already mentioned, in only a few days two young men from Saskatchewan, Ryan Anderson and Kris Gendall, will embark on a bicycle tour across Canada to create awareness about Alzheimer's disease.

Mr. Speaker, the Gearing Up for Alzheimer's Disease tour will begin in Victoria on May 1, and is expected to end three months later in St. John's, Newfoundland. However, even before they begin their journey, Ryan and Kris hope to raise \$5,000 to support a summer student scholarship at the University of Saskatchewan's neuropsychiatry research unit.

Mr. Speaker, there are currently 18,000 people in Saskatchewan suffering from Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder, and the problem is growing. That's why these young men believe that the work being done at the neuropsychiatry research unit is so important.

Under the direction of Dr. Peter Yu, it is hoped that this research could one day lead to the development of a diagnostic tool for Alzheimer's disease and to a treatment that could prevent memory loss and other debilitating symptoms.

The summer student scholarship will not only contribute significantly to Dr. Yu's research, but will also provide a promising science student with the opportunity to gain valuable research experience while attending university.

I invite all members of the Assembly to join me in wishing Kris Gendall and Ryan Anderson a safe journey and in commending them for their compassion and obvious commitment to helping those less fortunate than themselves.

100 years of heart is our centennial theme, Mr. Speaker. The task that these two young men have set for themselves here at the beginning of our second century proves that will be as true in our second 100 years as it was in our first. Congratulations to both.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

National Medical Laboratory Week

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is National Medical Laboratory Week. It's a week where we recognize the valuable contribution of hard-working technologists and medical lab professionals, making our health care system work.

From hospitals to community health clinics, lab techs are on the front lines of health care service delivery. These dedicated professionals work to detect and control disease and infection. In addition to their work on the front lines, medical lab professionals contribute their knowledge and expertise to the research that is crucial to the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Medical lab professionals are the third largest group of medical

care professionals in the country. They play a crucial role in our health care system as indicated by the fact that 85 per cent of physicians' diagnosis and treatment decisions are based on laboratory test results.

Given the important role that these professionals play in Saskatchewan's health care system, it is only fair that they have the right to determine which union best represents their interests. That is the choice that they no longer have or will be able to make because of this government.

And so today we recognize the National Medical Laboratory Week. And I would once again ask this government to allow MLTs [medical laboratory technologist] to exercise the same freedoms as other unionized people in this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Dewdney.

Saskatchewan Receives 12th Credit Rating Upgrade

Mr. Yates: — Well, well, well, Mr. Speaker, here's some very good news for the province of Saskatchewan that we won't be hearing from the members opposite. Mr. Speaker, the Dominion Bond Rating Service has recently boosted Saskatchewan's long-term debt ranking from A to A high.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Yates: — This is the 12th, this is the 12th consecutive credit rating increase the province has received since 1991 and the third credit upgrade under the leadership of this Premier. And, Mr. Speaker, it comes less than a month after Saskatchewan posted its 12th consecutive budget — balanced budget, pardon me, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Yates: — Mr. Speaker, the Dominion Bond Rating Service press release says the upgrade reflects the significant improvement in the province's debt-to-GDP [gross domestic product] ratio, supported, and I quote:

... by the Province's sound fiscal management, as highlighted by the solid cumulative budget surplus over the past five years and below average spending growth ...

Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan economy has been recovering for years from the last time right-wing ideologues — like the members opposite — got hold of the budget.

But, Mr. Speaker, here we are at the beginning of our second century and the future is bright. The economy is performing extremely well. March was our 12th straight month of record high job numbers, and we have the second lowest rate of unemployment in the country. All very good news, Mr. Speaker.

So why is the opposition silent, Mr. Speaker? Because, Mr. Speaker, to put it plainly and simply, good news for the people of Saskatchewan is bad news for the party opposite.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Cannington.

Federal NDP-Liberal Budget Agreement

Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This must be from the twilight zone, so tell me it's not true. I had this nightmare that I saw the following ad on eBay: For sale — conscience of the New Democratic Party of Canada. Starting bid — 4.6 billion Canadian. Closing date — May 19, 2005. Bidders — one. Bidder — Paul.

Mr. Speaker, I guess what Sir Robert Walpole said must be true. Every man has his price. Jack Layton and the entire NDP are prepared to sell their soul to those responsible for the ad scam sponsorship scandal. You have to keep in mind that every NDP in Saskatchewan is a member of Jack Layton's sellout team, as they all hold federal NDP memberships.

I guess it should not be a surprise, as this NDP government bought Jim Melenchuk and his caucus. The NDP paid a lot less but then again Melenchuk only advertised on the NDP's failed on-line auction, Clickabid. But Clickabid is now out of business because Jim Melenchuk and his caucus was one of the very few sales they made.

Mr. Speaker, please tell me this is a nightmare, only a dream, that the NDP have abandoned their self-proclaimed moral high ground to support corruption.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

Saskatchewan Literacy Awards

Mr. Borgerson: — Mr. Speaker, on a less bitter note, Mr. Speaker, each year the Saskatchewan Literacy Network honours those people in our province who have demonstrated a spirit of commitment to literacy and learning. This year five people and groups were recognized for their ...

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Order, please, members. Order. Order. The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

Mr. Borgerson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this year five people and groups were recognized by the Saskatchewan Literacy Network for their contributions and personal achievements.

Mr. Speaker, literacy affects every part of our lives and means much more than just writing and reading. It influences our health and self-being, our sense of personal security, and our participation in our communities and in society.

Mr. Speaker, this year's recipients of the 2005 Literacy Awards of Merit are, in the professional category, Sally Greenough, who has been a tireless advocate for adult literacy education. In

the program/project category the winner was Saskatoon Public Schools' Parents Matter project.

The Prince Albert Raiders won the corporate award for their involvement in the Read With the Raiders program, a reading club that brings hockey players and their young fans together to play word games, read stories, and of course sign autographs. And the two Learner Literacy Awards went to Maritza Tello and Lori Wilson for overcoming significant challenges in learning to read.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating this year's nominees and winners for their efforts and achievements, and in acknowledging the many organizations that have contributed to the advancement of literacy and learning in Saskatchewan.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Legislation for Treatment of Drug Addicted Youth

Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, later today I will be introducing a Bill designed solely with the intent to protect and assess the children of our province who are abusing drugs.

Mr. Speaker, addiction is an illness. We must protect children with this illness. My question to this government is simple. Will you support this Bill? Mr. Speaker, will this NDP government support the Bill we are introducing today that attempts to save our children from a life of drug addiction?

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Community Resources and Employment.

Hon. Ms. Crofford: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. First of all I will say that there is no question that families are sending a clear message that they want a stronger ability to intervene when their children are experiencing addiction problems. And I would say that we agree in principle with the notion that we need to take stronger action in this area.

I have had this Act since 1:30 and I still have not had a chance to review it. I want to see to what degree it's similar to provisions we have in The Child and Family Services Act.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, I know that this government has been listening to the buzz that's surrounding this Bill and the discussion around it, and I know that they've been listening to families that are desperate. Even the mayor of Regina said today that he thinks this Bill will help.

In Alberta all the parties came forward to provide parents with the legal tools they needed right away to help their children. I'm asking that this government sets aside politics, it sets aside process, set aside surveys and studies and legalese and everything else you have in front of you, and think about children. Will this government support this Bill today?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the minister.

Hon. Ms. Crofford: — First of all I'd like to just correct one bit of information and that's that Alberta is not implementing this Bill immediately. Alberta will not be bringing this Bill into force until July '06. And I would say that the reason for that is there's many things that have to be determined within a comprehensive Bill like this.

And so I will say that we will act; we will act in a timely way. I need to look at the Act and I need to compare it to The Child and Family Services Act because I think we have some similar provisions that we could build on.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Weyburn-Big Muddy.

Privacy Issues Related to Cancer Screening Program

Ms. Bakken Lackey: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Privacy Commissioner, Gary Dickson, has tabled his report on the prevention program for cervical cancer. I want to make it perfectly clear, Mr. Speaker, that the Saskatchewan Party supports prevention initiatives for cancer. However, many women in this province are upset with how the health information prevention program collects and uses their private health information.

Mr. Speaker, the Privacy Commissioner office has received over 100 complaints. Some women now are choosing not to even have Pap tests because there is no guarantee their privacy is being respected. Gary Dickson recommends that women have an opt-out provision like Manitoba that complies with national standards.

Mr. Speaker, to the minister: will he agree today to provide such an opt-out provision for women in Saskatchewan?

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the Privacy Commissioner has provided valuable information about the legislation, about the operation of this particular program which provides very good screening to deal with something that kills people. And we're very careful to make sure that we work with that.

He has made some suggestions around changing the information and the opt-out program, and we're supportive of putting something into place that will work that way. And, Mr. Speaker, we'll continue to take the good advice we've got here and make sure that we work with the professionals who are working in this field.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Weyburn-Big Muddy.

Ms. Bakken Lackey: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Privacy Commissioner says that the agency needs to do a better job of communicating with women, and quote:

[that] . . . the degree of transparency should be higher than would be the case for many other kinds of personal health information.

Mr. Dickson says that the agency needs to take further steps to minimize the risk of access by unauthorized persons to the Pap test results including, he says, it is not prudent to permit more than 70 different government institutions including such diverse organizations as SaskTel, the Milk Control Board, the Wascana Centre Authority, an opportunity to use or disclose personal health information without consent. Mr. Speaker, many women have said unless these deficiencies are corrected, they will no longer go for Pap tests. How does this help the prevention of cervical cancer?

[14:00]

Mr. Speaker, to the minister. Will the minister commit to correcting these deficiencies today, so that having a screening program in place can give the women of this province trust?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the problems identified by the Privacy Commissioner will be corrected and they will be corrected as soon as possible. Some of the issues have already been starting to be addressed. And we will work with the organization to make sure that the information is protected. They need to comply with the law of Saskatchewan. Those areas where they're not complying, we'll make sure they do.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Consultation Regarding Labour Legislation

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, last week the Minister of Labour said she tried to consult on Bill No. 87. She told this Assembly, and I'm quoting from page no. 2613 of April 21 *Hansard*:

There were three meetings that were set up and three meetings that were cancelled by the representative of the Business Council.

Mr. Speaker, in a letter dated April 22, 2005, the representatives of the Business Council said at no time did the council request and then cancel three meetings. Mr. Speaker, why did the Minister of Labour provide this inaccurate information to the House?

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, at the initial meeting that we had with the Business Council, the spokesperson for the council was Ms. Pollon. Ms. Pollon took the lead in the meeting, Ms. Pollon introduced the members of the Business Council. Ms. Pollon spoke for the Business Council after in the meeting. She spoke to the media.

So I assumed by that . . . Now if that was incorrect, I make apologies. But, Mr. Speaker, the meetings had been set by Ms. Pollon. She had phoned my office, set up three meetings — all of which have been cancelled over that period of time. I assumed that by her being the spokesperson initially for the Business Council, that that's whom she was continuing to speak for.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the letter dated April 22, 2005 to the Minister of Labour, signed by officials of the Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association, by a member of the Retail Council of Canada, and by a member of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, they state emphatically that they were not consulted on meetings and did not attend.

Those representatives of the Business Council are here this afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister start down the road towards co-operation? Will the minister live up to her government's commitment and begin consulting with everyone on Bill No. 87? And will she apologize for her earlier comments?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, very seldom you will go into a meeting with an organization when they don't take the opportunity to address all issues that are on the table or within their realm of interest. Whether it is a meeting with the chamber or the Business Council, it will always encompass all issues that are currently either on the table, in the works, or being projected for the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I have been very open to meet with all stakeholders when it comes to labour legislation and anything that is being put forward by the Department of Labour. And, Mr. Speaker, I will continue to do that.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the minister has indicated her quotes of Marilyn Braun-Pollon, the director of CFIB [Canadian Federation of Independent Business]. And I want to quote from a letter that she sent to the

hon. minister on April 22, and it says this:

It is important to state that CFIB did not make 3 separate meeting requests with your office. The first scheduled meeting with your office was on December 9th, 2004 in order to discuss a number of labour issues. However, it turned out that your office was willing to meet with members of the Saskatchewan Business Council the evening of December 9th. Out of respect for your time and recognizing your busy schedule, CFIB thought it best to forgo our meeting with your office and instead meet later in the day . . .

Mr. Speaker, that's the information that's been provided to this minister who stands in this House and says that, I did consult, I talked to people. And in fact there was no opportunity for consultation. Will the minister go back to a policy that involves all employers and consult on Bill No. 87?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, I'm a little bit . . . I'm left a little bit aghast here, Mr. Speaker. There was a meeting set in the morning; it was cancelled. It was set up not by the CFIB, not by the Business Council, but it was cancelled because we were having a meeting later in the evening. Mr. Speaker, I met; I didn't meet — I mean I'm not sure what the member is saying here.

Mr. Speaker, there has been three meetings established, set up with my office, all which were cancelled by outside parties. I had met with the Saskatchewan Business Council representatives on the one evening. We had a very lengthy discussion. Mr. Speaker, I will repeat again, I'm very open to meeting with stakeholders; have been consistently doing that over the years that I have held this portfolio. And, Mr. Speaker, I will continue to meet with stakeholders.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's important for the public in general to understand the time frame. These Bills were introduced in the month of November. We're talking about consultation that the minister wanted in the months of December and January. Consultation on the draft of a Bill should have occurred long before the month of November. Can the minister identify what she did?

There's another unfulfilled promise here, Mr. Speaker. Last week the Minister of Labour said she had five years to repeal section 13.4. On this side of the House we're a bit more efficient. We have a Bill that repeals section 13.4 of The Trade Union Act. Why not act in good faith, Mr. Speaker? Business leaders are here today. Will this minister extend the olive branch? Will the Minister of Labour support our Bill to repeal section 13.4 of The Labour Standards Act?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Well, Mr. Speaker, how quickly the opposition forgets. It wasn't just a short number of days ago the member opposite was standing and defending workers and workers' rights across this province, almost singing "Solidarity Forever," Mr. Speaker. Now, Mr. Speaker, here he is.

But there is one thing, Mr. Speaker, that I do take offence to. And that is when the member opposite wishes to quote me, I wish he would stick to the facts and be accurate. Now, Mr. Speaker, he wants to quote out of *Hansard*. And, Mr. Speaker, what I said is that we have two to three years left in our term and, Mr. Speaker, we are normally here in the House until the end of June, into July. We still have two months left in this session. And, Mr. Speaker, the member should read *Hansard* and be accurate, please, with his details and stick to the facts. But, Mr. Speaker, we will keep our word.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Compensation for Saskatoon Health Authority Management

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week the Minister of Health defended paying Jim Fergusson, the former CEO of the Saskatoon Health District, \$13,000 a month for a bit of advice. He said that was okay.

Let's get this straight. Mr. Fergusson retires and then gets a severance package worth over \$66,000. Let alone does he get a \$66,000 severance package, he also gets a pension. So you combine that now with his new, lucrative contract worth \$13,000 a month for advice. Sounds a little bit like triple-dipping to me, Mr. Speaker.

The minister now has had a few days to think about it. Does he really believe that it's appropriate to pay the former CEO, the NDP Jim Fergusson \$160,000 a year for a little bit of advice?

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, I think this line of questioning runs in a long line that we get from that opposition of attacking our senior leaders in our health care system, our education system, right across the government and attacking them for doing a good job.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fergusson worked for many years for the predecessors to the Saskatoon Health Authority. When he ended up leaving that job, he worked with the board and with his lawyers and with others to negotiate a easing out from that particular job and, Mr. Speaker, that was arranged through the Saskatoon Health Authority. They did it because they valued his experience as somebody who could provide advice as this past year has transpired. And, Mr. Speaker, the transition to the new CEO is going well.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, that answer is absolutely ludicrous. We are not attacking Jim Fergusson for the salary that he's getting. We're attacking this government for accepting \$166,000 salary for one year for a little bit of advice, Mr. Speaker. That's what we are talking.

But you know, like if John Gomery said — from the Gomery Commission which is going on in Ottawa that this thing draws a little parallel to — if you can get the job, good for you. And that's exactly what this government is thinking. A former NDP policy decision maker getting a soft landing from this government, Mr. Speaker.

Will the minister stand up and justify their priorities by paying \$13,000 a month when the health care system needs much more improvement, whether it's health care professionals or equipment? How can he justify that expenditure?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, we have the Conservative Party opposite saying one thing one day and something the next. Yesterday the member from Humboldt was talking about how you have to pay good dollars to get good advice for senior leaders in our government. Today we have somebody attacking somebody who's provided good leadership in the Saskatoon Health Authority over many, many years.

Mr. Speaker, this is about employment contracts that are negotiated between good leaders and their boards. We know the history of the Conservative Party of Saskatchewan and the George Hill contract with SaskPower prior to '91. Mr. Speaker, there are a whole number of things that happened at that point which we in this province will never let happen again.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, health care workers around this province are exacerbated by this government and its priorities, Mr. Speaker. Here's what one health care worker at the ICU [intensive care unit] unit of the Saskatoon hospital said. Here's what she had to say:

There are many things that we need in our unit to do our job properly and look after . . . [the] patients . . . [safety]. We do not have . . . simple blood pressure cuff . . . [at] each of . . . [the] bedsides. At times we do not [even] have . . . sterile scissors or forceps . . . Beds remain closed in our hospital while patients wait overnight in the ER on stretchers . . . Why is the district not spending money on hiring . . . nursing staff . . . [for] these beds . . .

Mr. Speaker, last year the Saskatoon Health District had to cancel surgeries throughout the hospital because it didn't have the personnel. But this government has the money to support an

NDP former policy-maker on a soft retirement package. Is that the priorities of this government?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the members opposite, the members of that Conservative Party exasperate all of the people of Saskatchewan for the thinness of their issues that they raise in this House. Mr. Speaker, we're talking about a contract between a board and a senior executive who provided good service over a long period of time.

I ask the members opposite: do you still have that list of civil servants that you're going to be severing at some point if you ever get into power? Mr. Speaker, are you in favour of . . .

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. I'd ask the . . . I'd ask for order first. Order. I'd ask the minister to address all his remarks through the Chair. Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, it appears today that we have now found out that my legal friend, the new colleague across the way, is the keeper of the hit list. We encourage him to provide those details to us all.

[14:15]

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Humboldt.

Investment in Minds Eye Entertainment

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, Kevin DeWalt is the CEO of Minds Eye Entertainment and he seems to be a very, very confident man. Prior to even consulting with the Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation, Mr. DeWalt included an extra half a million dollars in his budget for the Tommy Douglas movie.

Mr. Speaker, why was Mr. DeWalt so confident that he would get the extra money? Who promised that money to Mr. DeWalt?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister for Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Hon. Ms. Beatty: — Mr. Speaker, once again the facts say one thing and the opposition party says another. The fact is that due diligence was done on this story, the story about Tommy Douglas. And the fact is that he is a great Saskatchewan citizen and Mr. DeWalt recognized that fact. And based on that, he is doing a story on Tommy Douglas.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, it seems that the minister isn't willing to actually answer the question, but there is one question that we can answer for her. And that is, who signed off on giving an extra \$614,000 to Minds Eye for the Tommy Douglas movie? Whose signature, Mr. Speaker, is on that order of council? Who took the unprecedented action of handing over the money that was in the budget even before the producers had started to talk with the department? Why, Mr. Speaker, it's none other than the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Mr. Speaker, her . . .

The Speaker: — Order, please, members. Allow the question to be put. Member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, her officials said, don't do it. Her officials said it was part of a consistent pattern of last-minute assistance that was unhealthy to the industry. Her officials said that there was no policy rationale for the decision.

Mr. Speaker, why did the minister give Minds Eye Pictures the money?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister for Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Hon. Ms. Beatty: — Mr. Speaker, the facts are that . . .

The Speaker: — Order, please. I will just take the answer from the minister. Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Hon. Ms. Beatty: — Mr. Speaker, the facts are that this project is resulting in all kinds of economic opportunities for the young people of this province and one of those communities is Gravelbourg. Seven million of the \$8 million from this project is being spent in Saskatchewan and most of those are in rural Saskatchewan. The Government of Saskatchewan is very proud to have invested in this project, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, only this government would be proud of losing 7 million taxpayers' dollars. Only this government would call that a success story. Outside of this Assembly yesterday the minister said that the due diligence had been done by her department. Then the minister said that it was done by the partners, Telefilm Canada and the CBC [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation]. After that the minister said this . . .

The Speaker: — Order, please. Order, please. Order, please members. The member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, after all that the minister said that the centennial office had done its own due diligence. Can the minister inform this House today which story she would like

to use? Can she commit to tabling all of the information prepared in support of paying the extra money for the Tommy Douglas movie? Can the minister even table one document, one form, one piece of advice that she received that said that paying the extra money was a good idea?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Hon. Ms. Beatty: — Mr. Speaker, the facts are that there was due diligence done on this project. It was reviewed. And funding for *The Tommy Douglas Story* is a one-time grant through the centennial office that provides opportunity for us to recognize one of the greatest Canadians today.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, the facts are that her own department recommended against it. The facts are that they said it would be harmful to Minds Eye as well as the industry as a whole. The facts are that her department is responsible for the film industry. So if she has the facts, we're asking her to table anything — one piece of information that was advice saying it was a good idea; have her table anything.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Hon. Ms. Beatty: — Mr. Speaker, I would like to say again that the facts remain that due diligence was done on this proposal. And based on that I would like to continue adding that the economic spinoffs as a result of these . . . *The Tommy Douglas Story* builds on the culture of Saskatchewan. And that is something that is appropriate and timely to tell during our centennial, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 96 — The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2005

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Learning.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to move the long-awaited Bill No. 96, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2005 and that it be now introduced and read for a first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Learning that Bill No. 96, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2005 be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 97 — The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendment Act, 2005/Loi de 2005 sur une modification corrélative découlant de la loi intitulée The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2005

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Learning.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Although not quite as long awaited, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to move that Bill No. 97, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendment Act, 2005 be now introduced and read for the first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Learning that Bill No. 97, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendment Act, 2005 be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — And when shall the Bill be read a second time?

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Next sitting.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 206 — The Labour Standards (Repeal of Government Directed Hours) Amendment Act

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 206, The Labour Standards (Repeal of Government Directed Hours) Amendment Act be now introduced and read a first time.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the member for Canora-Pelly that Bill 206, The Labour Standards (Repeal of Government Directed Hours) Amendment Act be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the

Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

The Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the member for Canora-Pelly.

Mr. Krawetz: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 116 — The Osteopathic Practice Repeal Act

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 116, The Osteopathic Practice Repeal Act be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 116, The Osteopathic Practice Repeal Act be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

The Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Next sitting, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

Bill No. 207 — The Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 207, An Act providing for the Protection and Assessment of Children who are Abusing Drugs be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the member for Kelvington-Wadena that Bill No. 207, The Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? The Chair recognizes the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Ms. Draude: — With leave, right now, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member for Kelvington-Wadena has requested leave for second reading of Bill 207, for 207, right now. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — Leave has not been granted. When shall the Bill be read a second time? Next sitting.

Bill No. 208 — The Tommy Douglas Day Act

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Elphinstone.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 208, The Tommy Douglas Day Act, be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the member for Regina Elphinstone that Bill 208, The Tommy Douglas Day Act, be now introduced and read for the first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — First reading of this Bill.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Elphinstone.

Mr. McCall: — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

TABLING OF REPORTS

The Speaker: — Members of the Assembly, I wish to put on the record that earlier today I have tabled the investigation report H2005-002 from the Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner dated April 27, 2005. I also at this time wish to table the 36th annual report for the year 2004 of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Saskatchewan branch.

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Comments Regarding Member's Remarks

The Speaker: — I also, before orders of the day, wish to refer back to a statement that was made by the member for Cannington, who in his remarks I believe crossed the line in accusing a former member and this government . . . a former member and specific members on this side of wrongdoing with respect to Mr. Melenchuk. And I would ask the member for Cannington to withdraw the statement.

Mr. D'Autremont: — I withdraw that, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I thank the member and go ahead with government orders.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, to facilitate the meetings of the Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure Policy Field Committee and the Economy Policy Field Committee, I move the House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that this House do now adjourn. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:18.]

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Premier

Hon. P. Atkinson
Minister of Crown Management Board
Minister Responsible for Public Service Commission

Hon. J. Beatty
Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation
Provincial Secretary

Hon. B. Belanger
Minister of Northern Affairs

Hon. E. Cline
Minister of Industry and Resources

Hon. J. Crofford
Minister of Community Resources and Employment
Minister Responsible for Disability Issues
Minister Responsible for Gaming

Hon. D. Forbes
Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for the Office of Energy Conservation

Hon. D. Higgins
Minister of Labour
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. J. Nilson
Minister of Health
Minister Responsible for Seniors

Hon. P. Prebble
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Minister of Justice and Attorney General

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Minister of Highways and Transportation

Hon. L. Taylor
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Hon. A. Thomson
Minister of Learning
Minister Responsible for Information Technology

Hon. H. Van Mulligen
Minister of Finance

Hon. M. Wartman
Minister of Agriculture and Food