



FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

of the

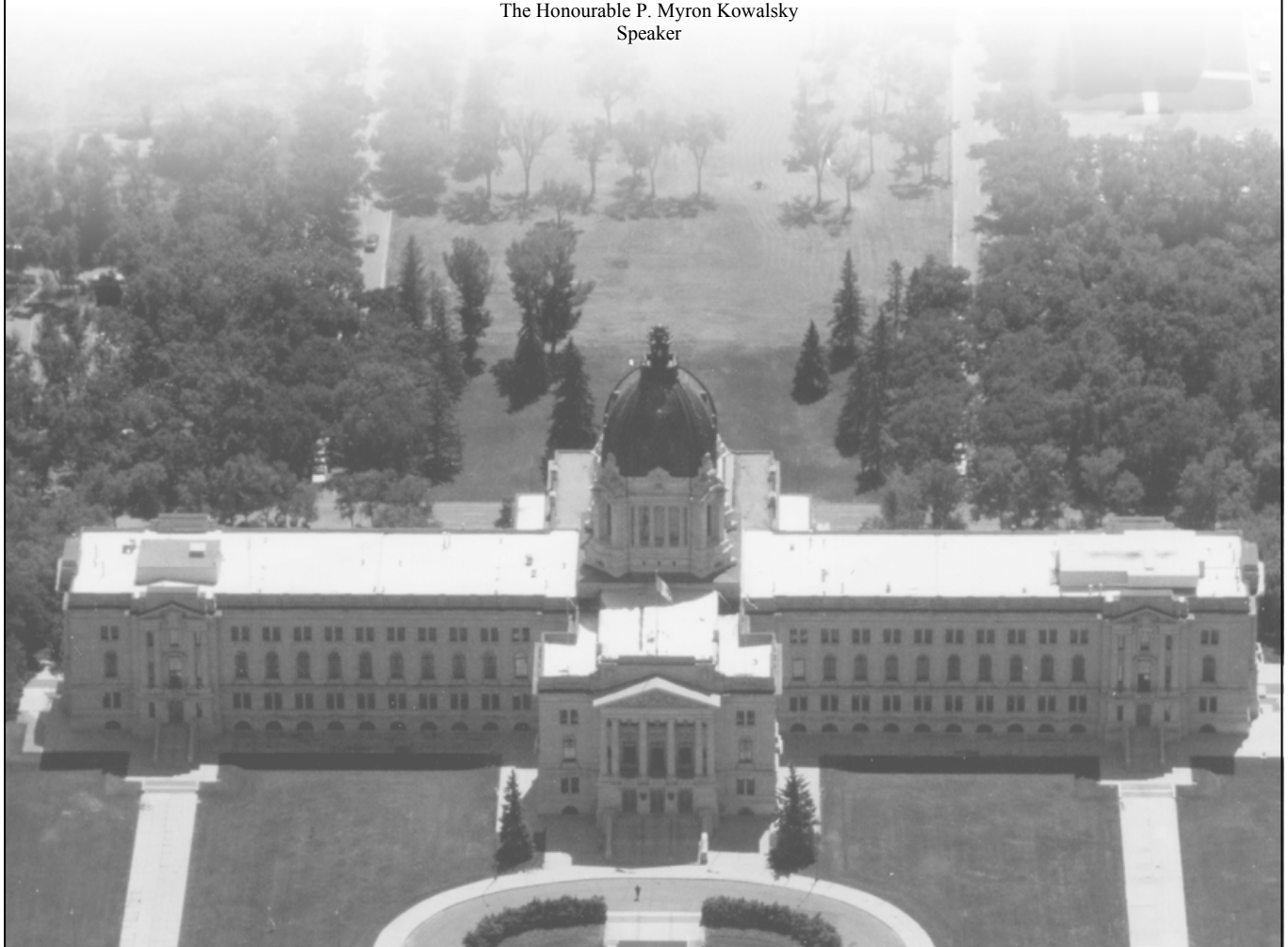
Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**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 for Cypress Hills.

Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The residents who live along Highway 32 are anxious for improvements to their rapidly crumbling highway. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take immediate action and make necessary repairs to Highway 32 in order to address safety and economic concerns.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, these four pages of petitions are signed by individuals from the communities of Cabri, Prince Albert, Abbey, and Kindersley. I so present.

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Swift Current.

Mr. Wall: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise again on behalf of residents of southwest Saskatchewan concerned about the level of residential support for people who have long-term disabilities. The prayer of their petition reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to provide the funding required for additional residential spaces for Swift Current residents with life-long disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, the petitioners today are from the communities of Wymark, McMahon, Neville, Pambrun, and the city of Saskatoon. I so present.

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

Ms. Eagles: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of those concerned about cellular service in rural Saskatchewan. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the provincial government to take all necessary actions to install the technical equipment necessary to ensure that all rural areas of Saskatchewan are protected by reliable cellular phone coverage.

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

And, Mr. Speaker, this is signed by people from Radville and Weyburn. I so present. Thank you.

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 as addendums to previously tabled petitions, being sessional papers nos. 96, 639, 666, 715, 716, 720, 730, 798, and 808.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Moose Jaw North.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Hagel: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 90, The Adult Guardianship and Co-decision-making Amendment Act, 2005 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has requested leave to waive consideration of Bill No. 90 in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Leave has been granted. When shall this Bill be read a third time? I recognize the Government House Leader.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 90 — The Adult Guardianship and Co-decision-making Amendment Act, 2005

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, I move this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader, the Minister of Finance, that Bill 90, The Adult Guardianship and Co-decision-making Amendment Act, 2005 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Speaker: — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — Third reading of this Bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Moose Jaw North.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Hagel: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 92, The International Protection of Adults (Hague Convention Implementation) Act, without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole on Bill 92. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Leave has been granted. When shall this Bill be read a third time? I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 92 — The International Protection of Adults
(Hague Convention Implementation) Act/Loi de mise en
oeuvre de la Convention de la Haye sur la protection
internationale des adultes**

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — I move this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill 92, The International Protection of Adults (Hague Convention Implementation) Act, be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — Third reading of this Bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Moose Jaw North.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Hagel: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed once again by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 101, The Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act also without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration of Bill 101 in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Leave has been granted. When shall this Bill be read a third time? I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 101 — The Enforcement of Foreign Judgments
Act/Loi sur l'exécution des jugements étrangers**

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — I move that this Bill now be read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill 101, The Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — Third reading of this Bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING
AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Moose Jaw North.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Hagel: — Mr. Speaker, finally, I am instructed once again by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 103, The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes . . .

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — . . . waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Justice has requested leave to waive consideration of Bill 103 in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Leave has been granted. When shall this Bill be read a third time. I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 103 — The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005

Hon. Mr. Quennell: — I move that this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill 103, The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Motion is carried.

Deputy Clerk: — Third reading of this Bill.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS

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

Mr. Kerpan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that I shall on day no. 111 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower: what is the corporation's tendering process? Is the lowest tender guaranteed the contract? And are successful bidders notified of the successful bidder and bid?

Also, Mr. Speaker, on the same day I shall ask:

The Minister Responsible for SaskPower: how many customers are signed on to the Green program? Please provide a breakdown based on total users — residential users, commercial users, and government users.

And I have a similar question for the year 2004.

And, Mr. Speaker, I shall on day no. 111 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower: under what conditions would a new employee of SaskPower be able to join the Power Corporation Superannuation Plan? Since January 1, 1999 how many new employees have joined the Power Corporation Superannuation Plan?

Mr. Speaker, I shall give notice that I shall on day no. 111 ask the government the following question:

To the same Minister for SaskPower: how much of the \$301 million budgeted for operating, maintenance, and administrative expenses in 2003 was spent on wages and benefits?

And I have a similar question for the year 2004, Mr. Speaker.

And while I'm on my feet I give notice that on day no. 111 I shall ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower: please

provide the following productivity measures for 2004 — the number of customers per employee, the power generated per employee, and the power generated per dollar of assets.

And I have similar questions to the same ministers for the year 2003, 2002, 2001, and 2000.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I shall on day no. 11 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower: does SaskPower currently levy any fees on individuals who generate power off the electric grid?

And finally, on day no. 11 I shall ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Finance: does the provincial government currently levy any taxes related to the generation of electricity by individuals who generate power off the electrical grid?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that I shall on day no. 111 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy: what is the corporation's tendering process? Is the lowest tender guaranteed the contract? Are unsuccessful bidders notified of the successful bidder and bid?

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Mr. Gantfoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to all members of this Assembly, it is my pleasure to introduce 50 students from Melfort and Unit Comprehensive Collegiate. They are the senior band and swing choir. They're here with chaperones Adrian Bourgeois, Bruce Schell, Alan Debusschere; and their music directors, Mavis Peters and Ray-Ann Usselman.

Mr. Speaker, they're here for the day in Regina. And on this beautiful day they came to the legislative grounds and the grass to relax before they're going for a dinner engagement. And I convinced them to come and see this beautiful place in the Chamber that's their legislature. Would everyone please welcome them here today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a great pleasure for me to stand and welcome many visitors in your gallery today who are celebrating the International Day of the Midwife.

They held a very informative and fun event on the front lawn of the legislature at noon today, at which both myself and a member of the opposition attended.

I had the opportunity . . . I would ask that these individuals would stand or wave as I introduce them, Mr. Speaker: Heather Wood, who is a midwife practising in Hamilton, Ontario, and is generously offering her knowledge and experiences for the progress of midwifery in Saskatchewan; Joanne Havelock, from the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence. And as well there's other midwives practising in Saskatchewan, and their supporters: Sonya Duffee, Eileen McKenzie, Jeni Minion and her son Elijah, Sylvie Roy and her children, Debbie Mpofu, Rob Wright, Amy Stensrud and baby Mason, Elizabeth Curry, Christina Phipps, Ruben and Pamela Artavia, Roberto Apodaca and Kristy Obrigewitsch with baby Manuel, Joanna South and baby Jack.

And unfortunately I don't have all the names but I welcome all of the guests to the Assembly today and thank them again for a wonderful event at noon and the information that they provided to the visitors that were at the event. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming the midwives and the friends of the midwives to their Assembly. Some of these women have made the trip to the legislature every year for the past six years and they're hopeful that the government will work with them on their Bill for midwifery. And I'd like to welcome them to their legislature.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, through you and to you to the rest of the Assembly I'd like to introduce 19 grade 11 and 12 students from the Sedley High School in Sedley, Saskatchewan, located about 50 kilometres east of Regina.

They are here with their teachers, Sandi Robertson — and I hope I have the pronunciation right here — Andre Boutin-Maloney. I would like to welcome them here and hope they enjoy the proceedings. I'm going to have an opportunity to visit with them after question period and hopefully answer the questions that perhaps the government doesn't today. So I would like all members to join with me in welcoming them here today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Moose Jaw Wakamow.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, I'd like

to introduce two women sitting in your gallery — Barb Cape who is the president of Local 299 SEIU [Service Employees' International Union], and also Laurie Probst from CEP [Communications, Energy and Paperworks Union of Canada]. I'm very pleased to see them here today and I hope all members will give them a warm welcome.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[13:45]

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Holocaust Memorial Day

Hon. Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, today is Holocaust Memorial Day or Yom haShoah.

On this day we honour those who fought and continue to fight the tyranny of anti-Semitism. This is a day set aside to remember the more than 6 million Jewish women, men, and children who were victims of the Holocaust and who died for no other reason than they were Jewish.

Mr. Speaker, in 2001 this Assembly passed the Holocaust memorial Act. The legislation refers to this day as a time to reflect upon and educate people about the enduring lessons of the Holocaust and to consider other instances of the systemic destruction of peoples and the importance of multiculturalism in our society.

Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago people from a variety of ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds came together to form the province of Saskatchewan. And they took for their motto, "from many peoples, strength." Holocaust Memorial Day is a day of remembrance. It is a day for each of us to reflect on what our motto really means, to reaffirm our commitment to acceptance and understanding, to celebrate those things that make us unique and different from one another, and to celebrate those things that make us very much the same.

Mr. Speaker, understanding is key to ending intolerance, xenophobia, and racism. We need to learn the lessons of the Holocaust, and relearn the lessons of the Holocaust, and we need to remember the victims. Remembering will go a long way toward fostering the kind of understanding we all so desperately need.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Saskatchewan Party's Nomination for Swift Current Constituency

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I and a number of my colleagues were able to be in Swift Current to attend the official opposition Saskatchewan Party's first nomination meeting.

There was an excellent crowd on hand for the event. And despite perhaps the better judgment of caucus and of party members in the Swift Current constituency, the current member for Swift Current was uncontested for the nomination.

Mr. Speaker, last night's event was only the first of several Saskatchewan Party nomination meetings this spring. There will be nomination meetings in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan Rivers, Carrot River Valley, Saskatoon Eastview, and Saskatoon Riversdale in the weeks to come.

And these are hotly contested nominations, Mr. Speaker, where people are anxious to nominate a Saskatchewan Party candidate. They're anxious, Mr. Speaker, to nominate someone who will represent their constituencies and who will send a message to the legislature that the same old rhetoric from this out-of-touch NDP [New Democratic Party] government just doesn't cut it any more. They want a government that will talk about what Saskatchewan can be — not just what Saskatchewan used to be. And they want a government that stands by their words.

Mr. Speaker, people don't want to wait until the next election is called to get involved. They want to make a difference now, which is why the Saskatchewan Party is holding these nomination meetings. Mr. Speaker, we would like to congratulate the member from Swift Current for being officially nominated as the first Saskatchewan Party candidate for the next election and we eagerly look forward to our other nomination meetings this spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Douglas Park.

Grateful Expressions to Canadians for the Liberation of the Netherlands

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, over the last number of days the people of the Netherlands have been holding ceremonies of remembrance to honour the soldiers of the First Canadian Army who fought and died to liberate the Netherlands from Nazi occupation. At just one of these memorial ceremonies held in Groesbeek, Netherlands on Tuesday, more than 8,000 people were in attendance.

Mr. Speaker, these heartfelt expressions of thanks coming as they do, 60 years after the terrible events of World War II, speak loudly and directly to the high level of esteem and gratitude, indeed affection that the people of the Netherlands hold for their Canadian liberators. Mr. Speaker, as someone who was born in the Netherlands, I want to add my voice of thanks and appreciation to those who gave so much to ensure Dutch freedom and liberty.

Mr. Speaker, in September 1944, Canadian troops who had previously been fighting in France, Italy, and Belgium were moved to the Netherlands. Among these troops was the South Saskatchewan Regiment. For the next nine months, the Canadians fought an increasingly desperate German army in conditions and terrain that were some of the most difficult in the entire war. Sixty years ago today, May 5, 1945, the liberation of

the Netherlands was complete — 7,600 Canadians had given their lives.

Mr. Speaker, the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian Armed Forces is one of the most significant events in the history of that country. As the mayor of Groesbeek said at Tuesday's ceremony, the Canadian cost of Dutch freedom is incalculable and the Dutch will never forget it. Thank you Canada, thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

University of Saskatchewan Football Team Hosts Dogs' Breakfast

Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what do you call 1,378 hungry football fans? Well if you were in Saskatoon this morning you'd call it a dogs' breakfast of Huskie proportions.

I had the pleasure early this morning of joining the members from Saskatoon Massey Place and Saskatoon Fairview in attending the fifth annual U of S [University of Saskatchewan] football team's dogs' breakfast in support of scholarships for elite football players. The crowd heard an inspiring speech from former Saskatchewan Roughrider great, Steve Mazurak.

The breakfast is the kickoff to training camp for the Vanier Cup finalists. It gives the team a chance to highlight the new recruits that will join the team this year. The recruits are high school and junior all-stars from across Western Canada. There's even one from my hometown, Mike Sydoruk from Blaine Lake. Four Huskies were drafted in the recent CFL [Canadian Football League] college draft — Nathan Hoffart, Curt Hundebly, Ryan Gottselig, and Jeff Piercy who's from Saskatoon Silver Springs — a real tribute to the great program and great coaches like Brian Towriss and Ed Carlton.

Two retiring assistant coaches, Barry Radcliffe and Rick Wakeman, were honoured for 21 years of service. These two individuals helped make the Huskies what they are today. They helped to mould about 500 players, including myself, into better football players and better citizens.

I'd like to congratulate breakfast Chair Daryl Labach and his team including MC [master of ceremonies] Hugh Vassos, organizers Todd Peterson, Murray Sadownick, Doug Siemens, and Mark Regier for organizing one of the largest — if not the largest — fundraising event in the province.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating the U of S Huskie football team as they embark upon their journey to return to the Vanier Cup.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

International Day of the Midwife

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today is International Day of the Midwife, a time set aside to raise awareness about the valuable services that midwives provide to expectant mothers, their families, and their newborns, and to acknowledge the significant contributions that midwives make to the health of their nations.

Mr. Speaker, the midwifery model of care is based on the belief that pregnancy is a natural and healthy process. Through continuity of care, midwives provide high-quality, safe, and cost-effective services to women with low-risk pregnancies.

Mr. Speaker, the quality of care that midwives provide is about much more than delivering babies. Midwives counsel, monitor, and support the health and emotional well-being of mothers from early on in their pregnancies through delivery and through postpartum period.

Midwives build a trusting relationship with their clients and work with them to make informed choices about their care. As a result, the demand for midwifery services often exceeds the supply.

Mr. Speaker, the midwife is the most common birth attendant in the world. Today's model of midwifery services is about providing women with a choice for safe and healthy maternity care. It's about educating and empowering women to make informed decisions about their pregnancies and their bodies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Saskatchewan doulas and midwives for their tireless work and in recognizing the Friends of the Midwives for educating the community, creating awareness, and ensuring that women with low-risk pregnancies receive the maternity care they want and need. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Saskatchewan Groups Join In Motion

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, May 2 to the 8 is recognized as Physical Activity Week. Today the Saskatchewan legislature joined with many other community groups across Saskatchewan participating in the In Motion movement.

In Motion is a province-wide program aimed at increasing physical activity for health benefits. The vision of Saskatchewan In Motion is to make Saskatchewan people some of the healthiest, most physically active individuals in Canada. Research has shown the overwhelming benefits of physical activity. Individuals that participate in regular physical activity experience lower stress levels, better health, and improved fitness.

By joining In Motion movement, the Saskatchewan legislature has committed to creating a supportive environment that challenges employees to becoming more physically active.

Various communities and groups across Saskatchewan have already recognized the value of physical activity. As of this morning, In Motion movement has 144 communities as well as 212 workplaces committed to incorporating physical activity as part of their healthier lifestyle.

I would just like to highlight, Mr. Speaker, that the school in my hometown of Cupar recently joined this movement. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to have all members join with me in recognizing In Motion and encourage members to ensure that their home communities and community groups join the movement.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

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

Labour Legislation

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's no wonder stakeholders in our economy are confused about Bill 87, An Act to amend The Trade Union Act. The minister can't seem to give a straight answer.

On Tuesday a reporter asked the minister, and I quote, "and with this Bill the board will be able to seize and access information." Note the reporter asked about seizure, Mr. Speaker. The minister replied, "yes, if it is relative to the case." Then yesterday another reporter asked for clarification. Again a quotation, "but they wouldn't be able to take any of those documents." The minister said no.

So which is it, Mr. Speaker? One day the minister says, yes there is seizure. The next day she says, no there isn't. Can the minister give us a straight answer?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The member is accurate in his quote from Tuesday, but I would say to him it also says "and access" and "access to documents." And, Mr. Speaker, that's what I was referring to. Yes there is access to documents. There has been concern about some referring to the sweeping powers that we are providing to The Trade Union Act . . . or in The Trade Union Act to the Labour Relations Board. That's inaccurate, Mr. Speaker.

These are powers that the board currently has. We are better defining them. And it will provide access to places of employment. These are reasonable requirements and are meant to provide opportunity to interview staff and also do inspections within the workplace.

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's comments are already causing a stir amongst Saskatchewan's businessmen and women. In fact my office has received calls from business owners who don't know what to believe. One day the minister says, yes the Labour Relations Board will have the ability to seize information or documents if it is relative to the case. Yesterday she said no.

Does the minister realize the uncertainty she is causing amongst stakeholders in this province? When will the minister start being straight-up with all stakeholders?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Well I would ask the member opposite, Mr. Speaker, if he realizes the confusion he is causing by cherry-picking out of quotes just the ones that suit his argument. Mr. Speaker, I clarified the statement yesterday in the paper, again this morning on the radio. And I will say again, this is interviews and inspection powers in the workplace where they are relevant to the case before the Labour Relations Board.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this all gets back to the issue of proper consultation. Mr. Speaker, this minister did not consult with all stakeholders prior to last November when she introduced Bill 87 which isn't surprising given the government's track record. They said they consulted about the smoking ban, and later we find that they did not consult with the First Nations. They said they consulted on the new municipal Act that was introduced last fall, and then they had to scrap it and reintroduce it this spring after they had consulted.

Mr. Speaker, will the minister today commit to actually consulting with all stakeholders and cleaning up the mess and confusion she has created?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I met with the Saskatchewan Business Council on December 10. They were very clear in their comments on Bill 86 and 87, Mr. Speaker. We have sent letters to the Chamber of Commerce of Saskatchewan, also the CFIB [Canadian Federation of Independent Business], and we have received written comments from both of those organizations and from the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour. Mr. Speaker, we have also consulted and had discussions on the details of the legislation and the proposed amendments with the legal community with a cross-section of stakeholders in the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

[14:00]

Mr. Krawetz: — I think what that really means is that the minister said there has been no consultation prior to last November with all stakeholders.

Mr. Speaker, I want to refer to the minister's comments in May 4, 2005, *Hansard* on page 2869 when the minister this:

... also clarifying access to workplaces to gather information that may be relevant to the case[s] ...

Now, Mr. Speaker, a point, a straightforward question to the minister — gathering information, does that mean that a Chair or a director or an individual appointed by the Labour Relations Board will have the power to take out the material that they believe relevant?

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

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, having access to information may include taking a copy of that information to the board. It may also mean handwritten notes. It may mean taking a copy on a computer.

Mr. Speaker, this is access to the information, and it is substantially different than seizure, despite the inaccuracy and not sticking to the facts that the opposition insists on doing.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, let's again quote from *Hansard* the minister's words. The minister commented yesterday when I asked her about the ability to take out relevant material, this is what she said, quote:

What I will say is, no, not any material, any ... I mean that is pretty broad scope, broad scale.

Mr. Speaker, she also said in *Hansard* the day before when asked about consultation, she said that the people from the business council, she had met with them, and this is her quote:

... they were quite clear in their comments on this legislation ... I understood quite clearly what they said.

Mr. Minister, if that ... Mr. Speaker, if that minister is in fact listening to the stakeholders, to the business people in this province and they have clearly told her that this Bill is flawed, will she agree — like the Minister of Municipal Affairs is — to remove this Bill from the order paper, consult with the stakeholders, and bring it back in a fashion that is acceptable to all stakeholders?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Government of Saskatchewan, when we look at bringing forward any legislation, we take into consideration the views of all stakeholders right across the province. Mr. Speaker, we don't take the views of one stakeholder group over another. We look at province-wide and how it will affect the province as a whole and what the needs are for the legislation, Mr. Speaker, and that's what we'll continue to do.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Geothermal Heating

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the Environment minister said his government is always interested in hearing about good ideas like geothermal heating. However in a letter dated January 20, 2004, the same minister said, and I quote, "Earth energy systems cannot be supported/promoted in an unqualified manner." So which is it, Mr. Speaker? The answer in the letter or the answer provided in the Assembly yesterday?

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

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I think if the member would check, yesterday I said something to the effect about what was unique or special to Saskatchewan's circumstances. And I think that's very important when we talk about geothermal because when you look at the whole energy chain, what's happening in Manitoba, they have a good source of hydroelectricity. Our source of electricity here in Saskatchewan largely comes from coal. So we have to take things like that into account to what good ideas are appropriate here in Saskatchewan. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In this Assembly yesterday, the minister said this about a geothermal heating system, "... we'll be happy to examine this type of thing." However a letter from the fall of 2003 from the office of the then-minister of the Environment stated, and I quote:

Basically, Saskatchewan has very dirty electricity. As you can see, the case for ground source heat pumps in Saskatchewan is not very clear cut.

Mr. Speaker, does this government actually support expansion of geothermal heating sources or not?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Well I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, what we

support here in this province. We support the spirit of innovation and what fits for Saskatchewan people in our unique circumstances. And that's very important. And that covers the whole range of situations whether it's geothermal or solar energy or wind. Wind is one that we're doing an awful lot of work with. And yesterday when the member spoke about energy conservation...

The Speaker: — Order. Order please. I'm just finding it difficult... Order please. Thank you. Will the minister complete.

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Well, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to emphasize how important this area is for us in Saskatchewan. The future of energy's here in this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister seems to talk a lot about being open to ideas and examining possibilities. However the record of action tells a different tale. Can he commit to this Assembly that he will instruct his officials to actively consider expansion of geothermal heating in this province?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Well I have to say, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the tenacity around geothermal. Of course we're very interested in all ideas. But I have to tell you, we're doing some really innovative things here in Saskatchewan: working with RMs [rural municipality] through the Office of Energy Conservation, different projects like that. So I'd be happy to hear more what he has to say, and we can talk later. We want to talk about the whole big picture of energy here in this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This minister says he's looking into consumer rebates, then writes that these systems cannot be supported, promoted in an unqualified manner. He tells this Assembly that he's happy to consider this sort of thing, but his department correspondence tells an entirely different story. Mr. Speaker, will consumers get a rebate or not? No one seems to know.

Manitoba has programs to support geothermal heating. Saskatchewan does not. Mr. Speaker, shouldn't the people of Saskatchewan get better standards of performance from a government claiming to promote a green and prosperous economy? Or is their support for the environment merely talk?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Mr. Speaker, this is a subject I love to talk about. We have such a green and prosperous economy. It's happening here in this province whether you're talking about carbon capture down in Weyburn, cogeneration in the forest areas — we are really on the move — the centennial wind turbine projects out at Rush Lake. It goes on and on. This is an exciting province and we take a look at each project. Whether it's a small or a megaproject we want to talk about those things. So, Mr. Speaker, I could go on and on. This is a place to be, here in Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Midwifery Legislation

Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 1999 this government introduced The Midwifery Act in the legislature. Today nearly six years later, this Act has yet to be proclaimed. Since then midwives has left Saskatchewan in droves. Mothers who do not want the birthing experience to be clinical and institutional continue to be disappointed with this government's failure to proclaim the Act and regulate and fund midwifery. This is yet another example of this government talking the talk but failing to walk the walk.

Mr. Speaker, when is this government going to stop seeing midwifery as a challenge and get in step with all other provinces west of Atlantic Canada?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, we support the practice of midwifery. And we continue to work with the partners in the health care system as to how to provide these services in a professional way using our professional legislation, but that also takes into account the many other health providers in this particular area. We have an opportunity to try and make some of these things work in a way that fits with what happens in Saskatchewan, and we're going to be working with the midwives to do that.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, this government loves to see themselves as the birthplace of medicare, yet today midwifery is basically still an illegal activity in Saskatchewan.

Yesterday the Alberta government announced that after recent studies showing that between 700 and \$1,100 per delivery was saved, and the fact that outcomes from midwife-delivered babies were as good or better, the province will consider funding midwifery. In Ontario the savings are between 800 to

\$1,800 per birth. Clients spend less time in labour and in the hospital. They also have fewer Caesarean and labour inductions. There are fewer hospital readmissions for mothers and babies.

Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan doesn't have to reinvent the wheel. When will this government get on with the responsibility of providing families with the alternative of midwifery?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan government has introduced a midwifery legislation, and we have been . . . and passed it. And we haven't proclaimed it because we have a challenge around professional legislation because we have four or five midwives in Saskatchewan. And so what we are trying to do is see whether we can have the professional legislation administered together with Manitoba or other provinces so that we can have sufficient numbers to provide the professional licensure and monitoring.

As well we're looking at our primary care teams and how that works together with the obstetricians, GPs [general practitioner], nurse practitioners, and others to make sure that it fits with our overall health system in Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Provincial Registration of the Liberal Party

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, according to a story in today's paper, the provincial Liberal party has violated the elections Act. The Liberals failed to file their annual financial statements by May 2. This is a contravention of the elections Act.

Mr. Speaker, there are strict laws governing financial disclosure of political donations, and the penalty for breaking these laws is deregistration of the political party. Mr. Speaker, I know that the Chief Electoral Officer is responsible for enforcing the elections Act, but the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker, is responsible for the Act. In the minister's opinion, should the Liberals be deregistered as a provincial party?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Deputy Premier.

Hon. Mr. Serby: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the members opposite would know, as we do on this side of the House, that this is the responsibility of the Chief Electoral Officer. The members opposite should know that, Mr. Speaker, and I'm sure that they do. And we know, Mr. Speaker, that he is an independent officer of the legislature, and it isn't for us, Mr. Speaker, to provide the direction to the Chief Electoral Officer.

So I say to the members opposite that we have a process in Saskatchewan today. We know that that often doesn't prescribe

to the kind of method in which the Saskatchewan Conservative party would operate, Mr. Speaker. They would want intervention in that kind of an exercise, Mr. Speaker, directly. But when we have independent officers, we believe on this side of the House that we should allow them to do their work, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We believe that people should obey the law. And when it comes . . . ultimately the minister over there, the Minister of Justice, is quite entitled to give his opinion, and that's what we asked for. Mr. Speaker, a few years ago the Liberals, especially Mr. Osika — you know, Mr. Speaker, the one the member from Athabasca is just wishing to come back and join him as a seat mate — used to come into this Assembly and castigate other parties for failing to provide full disclosure of political donations.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the government changed the elections Act as a result. Now the Liberals are breaking that law that we set up at that time by failing to disclose their donations on time. Maybe, Mr. Speaker, they're waiting for Justice Gomery to report. Mr. Speaker, when parties ignore these laws, you see the mess that we're in from what's happening in Ottawa today. Why should David Karwacki and the Liberals be allowed to violate the elections Act?

The Speaker: — Order please. I find the question out of order in the fact that the question period is for members, private members, to ask questions of the executive branch about their duties. The question that has been posed is really out of the jurisdiction of any minister here. The Chair recognizes the member for Martensville.

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you. Mr. Speaker, this question is directed directly at the Justice minister. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Osika actually went one step further than that. He wanted the money seized from the New Democratic party and from the PC [Progressive Conservative] Party because he said donations weren't properly being reported. Mr. Speaker, today the Liberals are violating that election Act not reporting properly their donations. Section 227 of The Election Act says that if a party violates financial disclosure laws . . . and it shall be deleted from the registry. And if a party is deleted from the registry, it must turn all its assets over to the Chief Electoral Officer.

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Justice. Given the Liberals' past statements on this issue, should they be handing over their assets to the Chief Electoral Officer?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:15]

The Speaker: — Order. I find that question out of order. Is there another line of questioning? I recognize the member for Melfort.

Negotiations with Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation

Mr. Gantfoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, Mr. Speaker, it's official. Saskatchewan teachers ratified a contract giving them wage increases that are beyond the government's 0, 1, and 1 wage mandate. They deserve this.

This government continues to say one thing, however, and do another. This morning the minister responsible for Public Sector Compensation said that the teachers' 2, 2, and 2 contract is really 0, 1, and 1. Mr. Speaker, this just simply does not add up. Mr. Speaker, will the minister explain her strange and convoluted math to this House.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Ms. Crofford: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to congratulate the bargaining committees who were able to reach this agreement and the trustees and teachers of the province who ratified the agreement. I think it was a good and responsible job on behalf of those parties for the taxpayers of Saskatchewan.

Secondly I would say that in many agreements, unions bring forward and employees bring forward situations that require one to look harder at the resources in a contract. Certainly in this particular contract we were looking at matters regarding classroom expenditures by teachers, the increased pressures in that workplace today, and certainly recruitment and retention issues. And, Mr. Speaker, I think this was a very fair contract.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Gantfoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think that this negotiated contract indeed was very fair and appropriate to the teachers of this province. But clearly the teachers of this province aren't buying the notion that this is a 0, 1, and 1 contract and that they're somehow being compensated for out-of-pocket expenses in the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, the teachers of this province negotiated a contract. In the information that was provided to them it said, and I quote, there would be:

Terms of the agreement are from September 1, 2004 until August 31, 2007. [And there would be] A two per cent economic adjustment to reflect the relationship with CPI, in each of the three years of [this] . . . agreement.

Mr. Speaker, this is not trying in some way to modify this agreement to suit this government's phony mandate of 0, 1, and 1. Teachers in this province want a legitimate contract that is properly placed on their grid and that they can count on this in terms of future negotiations. They didn't negotiate to be compensated for buying a box of chalk, Mr. Speaker. They want a contract. Will this government acknowledge that this contract is 2, 2, and 2 and not anywhere near the 0, 1, and 1?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of CRE [Community Resources and Employment].

Hon. Ms. Crofford: — Again, Mr. Speaker, in responding to the bargaining table, we recognize the recruitment and retention issues, principals' allowances, and in fact the very substantial pressures on teachers financially in the classroom today. And I would have to say that teachers voted for it, Mr. Speaker, and I believe they know what it means.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Provincial Registration of the Liberal Party

Mr. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the Minister of Justice: some time ago we passed a Bill in this House, presented to this House by the Minister of Justice, put the Bill forward. It was Bill with a section 227. My question is, is he prepared to enforce the Bill that was passed by this House?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Deputy Premier.

Hon. Mr. Serby: — Mr. Speaker, the legislation that comes forward is determined, Mr. Speaker, after consultation with all of the parties. When all the parties reach an agreement, Mr. Speaker, there is a decision about who it is, Mr. Speaker, who will serve as the Chief Electoral Officer in this province. And I say, Mr. Speaker, that the opposition should know this, that the individual today who serves the people of Saskatchewan in the areas of determining issues of this nature is decided, Mr. Speaker, as an independent officer of this legislature.

And if there is confusion, Mr. Speaker, today at all, the confusion is, Mr. Speaker, about which party is it today in Saskatchewan today that is the real Conservative Party, Mr. Speaker. That's the question that we need to address, Mr. Speaker, in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, because we have, Mr. Speaker, today, we have today the results, Mr. Speaker, of two parties, Mr. Speaker. You've got one party, Mr. Speaker, that has absolutely no members, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Order please. Order please. Order. Order.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Highways and Transportation.

Digital Cellular Expansion by SaskTel Mobility

Hon. Mr. Sonntag: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It brings me great pleasure today to announce the latest phase of digital cellular expansion by SaskTel Mobility.

SaskTel Mobility will be investing another 3.7 million . . .

The Speaker: — Order please, members. The Chair recognizes the Minister of Highways and Transportation.

Hon. Mr. Sonntag: — As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, SaskTel Mobility will be investing another \$3.7 million to expand and improve cellular coverage at 14 locations throughout Saskatchewan; including the previously unserved areas of Dorintosh and Orkney.

In addition, improvements are planned at 12 existing locations including Allan, Bienfait, Bredenbury, Caronport, Chaplin, Dubuc, Duck Lake, Elstow, Maymont, Meath Park, Vanscoy, and Yellow Grass.

Mr. Speaker, today's announcement is phase 2 of the \$28 million investment announced earlier this year. This brings the total investment by SaskTel Mobility in digital cellular in 2005 alone . . .

The Speaker: — Order please. I would ask that if members have communications they want to make, they could perhaps make arrangements to meet behind the bar. But allow the statements to be made; allow the responses to come forward. Minister of Highways and Transportation.

Hon. Mr. Sonntag: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And they can access new communications at 14 different locations, Mr. Speaker. This brings the total investment by SaskTel Mobility in digital cellular in 2005 alone to \$9 million. SaskTel Mobility's total investment in digital cellular service since 1998 now reaches \$120 million. This is indeed further proof that SaskTel Mobility understands that reliable coverage is critical for many customers.

SaskTel Mobility will continue to announce further locations for cellular investment throughout 2006. The focus will be on providing cellular service to areas where there currently isn't any cellular service and on improving service where there are coverage gaps.

Also, Mr. Speaker, in late 2005, SaskTel will be launching push-to-talk functionality over the digital network. This will allow customers to use their cellular phone much like a walkie-talkie. Future cellular expansion will also support FleetNet 800 customers as they consider migrating to the new cellular push-to-talk service.

I also want to once again assure emergency service providers in this province that SaskTel Mobility is committed to doing its best to support the existing FleetNet 800 service until a viable solution is in place.

Mr. Speaker, today's announcement is another reminder that SaskTel Mobility is listening to the needs of people across this province and responding with ongoing improvements to what is already the largest cellular footprint in this province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Kerpan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise

and respond to the Minister for SaskTel's statement today. And just a few brief remarks, Mr. Speaker. I want to again from the official opposition send congratulations to the good, hard-working folks at SaskTel for their excellent level of service that they provide to the residents of Saskatchewan. And to also say that we are indeed proud that SaskTel is on the cutting edge of technology and has been for some time, and we consider that to continue for a long time into the future, Mr. Speaker.

Just a couple of concerns though that I do see out of the minister's statement. And they really come from the statement today, but also as a part of the recently released annual report for SaskTel. And my concern is that when you look at the \$3 million or the \$3.7 million that's announced today and the \$9 million that SaskTel Mobility is investing in the year 2005, one has to obviously draw comparisons to that \$9 million and how much easier that would have been to come up with that \$9 million had we not wasted \$26 million on out-of-province investments such as Retx or \$60 million on failed projects that are failing such as Navigata in British Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, one wonders where we could be if this government wasn't handcuffing one of our major Crown corporations, that being SaskTel. We also talked about . . . You know, I look at things like the equity stripping that goes on within SaskTel, within the Crown corporations, and it's a credit to the people, a real credit to the good folks at SaskTel for being able to continue, being able to expand their business and their services to Saskatchewan residents in spite of — in spite of, Mr. Speaker — the fact that they're being handcuffed by this government.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say one more thing of concern about the minister's statement. In question period the last few weeks and also a couple of weeks ago, the opposition had a motion that talked about the FleetNet 800 system and what it would be replaced by. We were assured by the minister and also other members of the government that the FleetNet system would not be replaced by a push-to-talk system at least and until there was wide consultation with all the stakeholders in the province. And from the minister's just few words today, I get the feeling that perhaps the government is moving away from that commitment. And I hope that's not the case, and certainly will be . . . It's our job as the opposition to make sure and ensure that those consultations take place. And in fact, Mr. Speaker, I'd offer the opposition's support in those consultations and we look forward to those happening.

Again in finality, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say congratulations to SaskTel, and we look forward to continued expansion of the mobility system within the province. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 125 — The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2005

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

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 125, The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2005 be now introduced and read the first time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill 125, The Corporation Capital Tax 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: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — Next sitting.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Government Whip.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Once again I'm extremely pleased to stand on behalf the government and table responses to written questions 1,063 through 1,093 inclusive.

The Speaker: — Responses to questions 1,063 through to 1,093 have been submitted.

Why is the member from Batoche on his feet?

Mr. Kirsch: — With leave to introduce guests, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member from Batoche requests leave for introductions. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Leave has been granted.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was with great pleasure that today I would like to introduce in your gallery, seated with my wife, it's not her younger sister, it's my mother-in-law. So please welcome them to the House.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

The Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, to facilitate the work

of the Crown and Central Agencies Committee and the Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure 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: — The motion has been carried. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:30.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS	
PRESENTING PETITIONS	
Elhard	2873
Wall	2873
Eagles	2873
READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS	
Deputy Clerk	2873
PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES	
Standing Committee on Human Services	
Hagel	2873
THIRD READINGS	
Bill No. 90 — The Adult Guardianship and Co-decision-making Amendment Act, 2005	
Van Mulligen	2873
Bill No. 92 — The International Protection of Adults (Hague Convention Implementation) Act	
Loi de mise en oeuvre de la Convention de la Haye sur la protection internationale des adultes	
Quennell	2874
Bill No. 101 — The Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act/Loi sur l'exécution des jugements étrangers	
Quennell	2874
Bill No. 103 — The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005	
Quennell	2875
NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS	
Kerpan	2875
Harpauer	2875
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS	
Gantefoer	2875
Morin	2875
Draude	2876
McMorris	2876
Higgins	2876
Kirsch	2884
STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS	
Holocaust Memorial Day	
Atkinson	2876
Saskatchewan Party's Nomination for Swift Current Constituency	
Krawetz	2876
Grateful Expressions to Canadians for the Liberation of the Netherlands	
Van Mulligen	2877
University of Saskatchewan Football Team Hosts Dogs' Breakfast	
Cheveldayoff	2877
International Day of the Midwife	
Morin	2878
Saskatchewan Groups Join In Motion	
Hart	2878
ORAL QUESTIONS	
Labour Legislation	
Krawetz	2878
Higgins	2878
Geothermal Heating	
Kirsch	2880
Forbes	2880
Midwifery Legislation	
Draude	2881
Nilson	2881
Provincial Registration of the Liberal Party	
Heppner	2881, 2883
Serby	2881, 2883
Negotiations with Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation	
Gantefoer	2882
Crofford	2882
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS	
Digital Cellular Expansion by SaskTel Mobility	
Sonntag	2883
Kerpan	2883

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 125 — The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2005

Van Mulligen2884

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Yates2884

The Speaker2884

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. L. Calvert
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
Minister of Corrections and Public Safety

Hon. F. Quennell
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Hon. C. Serby
Deputy Premier
Minister of Rural Development

Hon. M. Sonntag
Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations
Minister of Highways and Transportation

Hon. L. Taylor
Minister of Government Relations

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