



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

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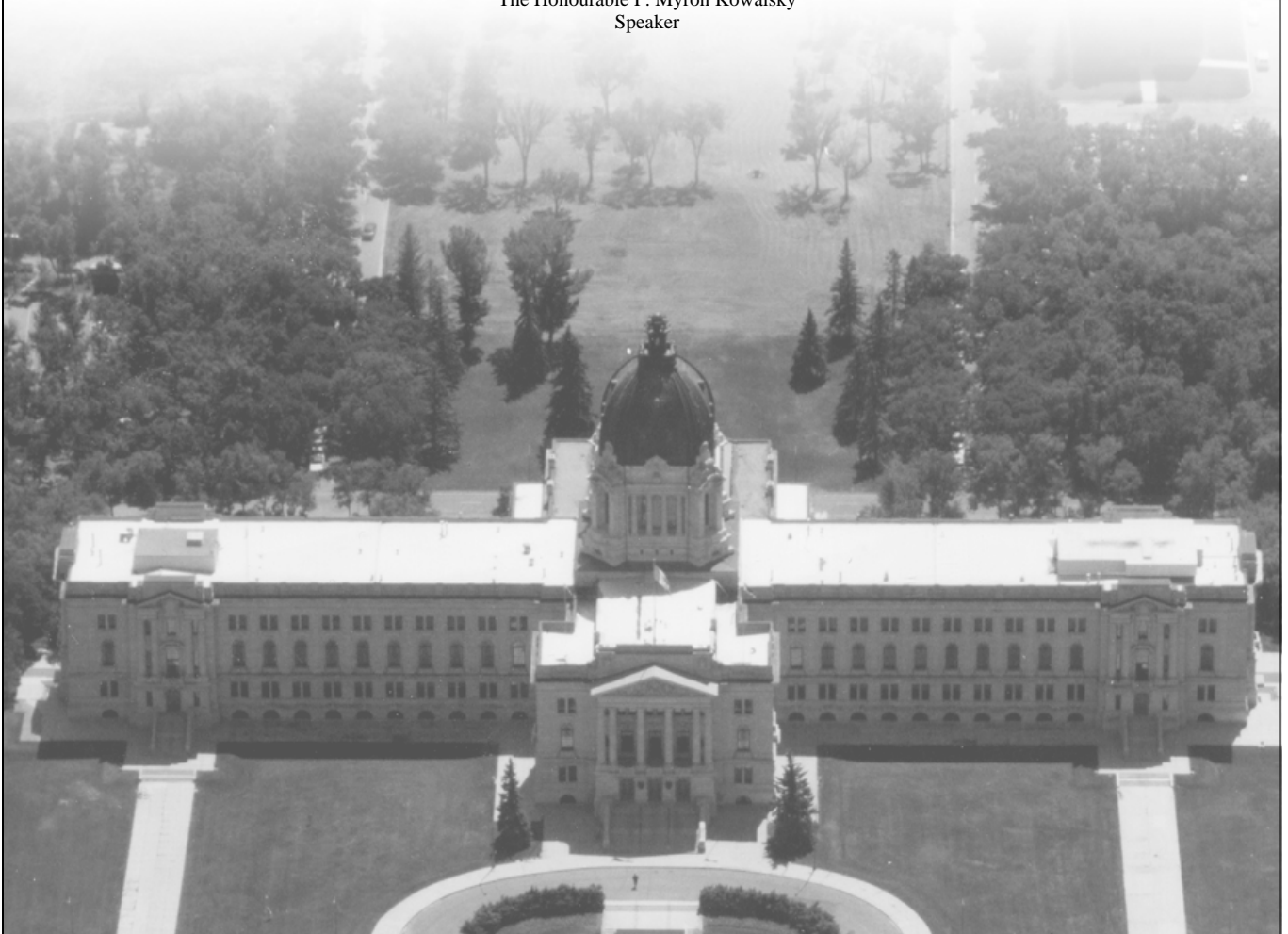
**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(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

<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
Addley, Hon. 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, Hon. 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 10:00.]

[Prayers]

**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**PRESENTING PETITIONS**

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

**Mr. Elhard:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I present a petition again on behalf of constituents in the extreme south part of the constituency of Cypress Hills. 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 Highway 18 from Claydon to Robsart is repaved at the earliest possible time to ensure the safety of drivers in the area and so that economic development opportunities are not lost.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, these petitions are signed by individuals from the community of Frontier, Robsart, and Eastend. I so present.

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm very pleased today to rise on behalf of the people who have a concern about their resort at Barrier Lake. There are 229 people who have a cabin at Barrier Lake, and 228 of them have signed this petition. And I'm sure that the minister is looking forward to looking at the rest of the names.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that this government will take the necessary action to develop a long-term lease to Revoy's Marina to include a turnabout for access to the marina, a place for boat trailers to be stored, and the seven seasonal camping spots be maintained to ensure the safety of this area.

The people that have signed these petitions are from Saskatoon, from Arborfield, from Annaheim, from Tisdale, from Lanigan, from Archerwill, from Raymore, from Naicam, from Bjorkdale, from Regina, from Rose Valley, from Fosston, from Kelvington, from Englefeld — pretty well all over Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hermanson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too have a number of petitions from people in the province of Saskatchewan who are concerned about the fact that the province is receiving record revenues from oil and gas production. And they are praying, and the prayer of the petition:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon.

Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to ensure that a portion of the province's windfall oil revenue be used to reduce the provincial gas tax.

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

Mr. Speaker, the signatures on this petition come from the communities of Porcupine Plain, from Wynyard, Sheho, Buchanan, from Foam Lake, from Theodore, and probably a few other communities. I'm pleased to present this petition on their behalf.

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

**Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I have a petition with citizens concerned of the safety of Highway No. 5. 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 action to upgrade and widen Highway No. 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

And as before, Mr. Speaker, the signatures are from around the entire province, as well as there's signatures here from Manitoba. I so present.

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, once again I rise with a petition from citizens in the Cadillac area that are concerned that they have lost their motor licensing service in the town of Cadillac. And the petition 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 reinstate motor vehicle licensing in the community of Cadillac.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is signed by numerous people from the town of Cadillac and also from Val Marie. I so present.

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

**Mr. Brkich:** — Mr. Speaker, I have a petition here with citizens that want to get some cellular service in rural Saskatchewan.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the provincial government to take all the necessary actions to install the technical equipment necessary to ensure that residents along Highway 19 and the Outlook area in Saskatchewan are protected by reliable cellular phone coverage.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by good citizens from Strongfield, Elbow, and Loreburn. I so present.

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

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a number of petitions from citizens who would like Highway No. 5 widened. 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 upgrade and widen Highway No. 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

Signed by the good citizens of Martensville, Aberdeen, Vonda, St. Denis, Meacham, Humboldt, and many names from Saskatoon. I so present.

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

**Mr. Kerpan:** — Mr. Speaker, I too rise today to present a petition on behalf of concerned citizens of Saskatchewan who are concerned about the condition of Highway No. 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon and given that the current condition of this highway makes passing hazardous unless you're driving a Nissan Maxima, Mr. Speaker. 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 action to upgrade and widen Highway No. 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

Mr. Speaker, signed by the good citizens of St. Benedict and Pilger, Saskatchewan.

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

**Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a privilege to bring this petition on behalf of the undersigned citizens that the use of crystal methane in Saskatchewan communities is a growing problem and that the number of drug treatment centres in Saskatchewan is totally inadequate. The prayer reads, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to implement a strategy that will deal with crystal meth education, prevention, enforcement, and treatment.

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

Signed by various communities across the province.

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

**Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, this is a petition that's a further one to one I'd presented earlier regarding mandatory drug and

alcohol testing where there is fatal accidents or accidents involving serious injury. Mr. Speaker, I'll read from 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 public is protected from operators of motor vehicles who are involved in an accident causing injury or fatality, and that those operators be required to undergo mandatory drug and alcohol level testing.

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

I so present, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Kindersley.

**Mr. Dearborn:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise in the Assembly today and present a petition on behalf of citizens concerned with mandatory drug and alcohol testing. 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 the public is protected from operators of motor vehicles who are involved in an accident causing injury or fatality, and that those operators be required to undergo mandatory drug and alcohol level testing.

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

Mr. Speaker, there's a number of petitions here signed by a number of communities across our great province, but predominantly from the city of 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 as sessional paper no. 42 and addendums to previously tabled petitions being sessional paper nos. 7, 8, 22, 27, 33, and 38.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

##### Standing Committee on the Economy

**Mr. Yates:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 20 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 20 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Labour has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole for Bill 20. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. When shall this Bill be read a third time?

The Chair recognizes the minister.

### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 20 — The Collective Bargaining Agreement Expiry Date Exception Act

**Hon. Ms. Higgins:** — 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 Labour that Bill 20 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:** — Motion is carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy is recognized.

#### Standing Committee on the Economy

**Mr. Yates:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 25 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill 25 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Labour.

**Hon. Ms. Higgins:** — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Labour has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole for Bill 25. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted.

When shall this Bill be read a third time? The minister.

### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 25 — The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2005

**Hon. Ms. Higgins:** — 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 Labour that Bill 25 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:** — Motion's carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy is recognized.

#### Standing Committee on the Economy

**Mr. Yates:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 23 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill 23 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Finance.

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration of the whole . . . of Bill 23. 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. 23 — The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2005 (No. 2)

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

**The Speaker:** — Order please, members. Order please, members. The minister has requested that the Committee of the Whole be waived for Bill No. 23. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. When shall it be considered and read a third time? When shall Bill 23 be read a third time? Order please. All members, I would ask all members to just quieten down and help by not distracting the business of the House because it gets a little confusing.

So when shall the . . . The Minister has moved that Bill No. 23 be now read a third time. 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:** — Motion's carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on the Economy

**Mr. Yates:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 2 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 2 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister for Culture, Youth and Recreation.

**Hon. Ms. Beatty:** — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation has requested leave to waive consideration of Bill No. 2 in Committee of the Whole. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the Bill be read a third time? The Chair recognizes the minister.

#### THIRD READINGS

##### Bill No. 2 — The Film Employment Tax Credit Amendment Act, 2005

**Hon. Ms. Beatty:** — 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 Culture, Youth and Recreation that Bill No. 2 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:** — Motion is carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on the Economy

**Mr. Yates:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 7 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 7 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Ag and Food has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole for Bill 7. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

#### THIRD READINGS

##### Bill No. 7 — The Farm Financial Stability Amendment Act, 2005 (No. 2)

**Hon. Mr. Wartman:** — Mr. Speaker, 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 Ag and Food that Bill No. 7 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:** — Motion is carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

[10:15]

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND  
SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

**Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 9, The University of Regina Amendment Act, 2005 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 9 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Learning.

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole.

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Learning has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole for Bill 9. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**THIRD READINGS**

**Bill No. 9 — The University of Regina  
Amendment Act, 2005**

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Mr. Speaker, I would move that this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

**The Speaker:** — Moved by the Minister of Learning that Bill No. 9 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:** — Motion is carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

**PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND  
SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of Committee on Crown and Central Agencies is recognized.

**Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies**

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No.

10, The University of Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2005 without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 10 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Learning.

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Learning has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole for Bill 10. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**THIRD READINGS**

**Bill No. 10 — The University of Saskatchewan  
Amendment Act, 2005**

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Mr. Speaker, 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 Learning that Bill No. 10 be now read the 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:** — Motion is carried.

**Deputy Clerk:** — Third reading of this Bill.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Kindersley.

**Mr. Dearborn:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to introduce to you and, through you, to this Assembly three guests seated in your gallery.

First and foremost we have a political organizer who works in Ottawa, Mr. Jerrod Orb, originally from Saskatoon, who's been involved in a number of provincial and federal campaigns and was instrumental in helping elect my seatmate in Saskatoon Southeast. I'm not sure every day whether I should thank him or not.

As well, Mr. Speaker, we have two fine members of parliament with us today. We have from the constituency of Regina Qu'Appelle, the member, Mr. Andrew Scheer, a friend of mine; and another friend of mine from the constituency of Calgary Southeast, Mr. Jason Kenney. They're in town today for a

breakfast and will be meeting at a rally for the next prime minister of the country, Mr. Stephen Harper, later on this afternoon. I'm very pleased, Mr. Speaker, to have these two future cabinet ministers visiting our Assembly today and would ask all members to welcome them here. Thank you.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Cline:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well I'd certainly like to join the Saskatchewan conservative party in welcoming their fellow Conservatives. And as well, Mr. Speaker . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. Order. I just would ask the member to address . . . use proper titles in the Assembly. The member.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Cline:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd certainly like to join the official opposition in welcoming their friends from the Conservative Party to our legislature. Dear friends, my colleague says, Mr. Speaker, and we know that they are very close, so we welcome them as well.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, Mr. Ken Rauch who is sitting in the west gallery. And Ken is a constituent of mine, Mr. Speaker. He's also a good friend. He is a retired public servant. He's a business person, and he is the newly elected president of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Cline:** — And I know all members will join me in welcoming Ken who has never had any doubt as to which political party he belongs to, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Lakeview.

**Hon. Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and to all members of the legislature 27 students from St. Pius School. They're grade 7 and 8 students who are here to be part of our last day of the fall session. They're accompanied by their teacher, Mr. Ryan Leblund, and their intern teacher, Ms. Lexi Gross. And I ask all members to welcome them.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — And, members of the Assembly, I would like to introduce someone to you who really tries to make all MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] look good. He has performed an important role in the proceedings of this Assembly since March 17, 1983, when the first television broadcast was made from this Chamber. That person is Gary Ward, our director of broadcast services.

I have asked Gary to join us here in the Chamber — he's seated in the gallery — so that we can acknowledge his 23 years of service in the broadcast control room. Gary is set to retire on December 23, so today's proceedings will be his final broadcast. Joining Gary in the Speaker's gallery is his wife, Bren — perhaps Bren could give us a little wave — his mother and stepfather, Ollie and Karl Wulff; sisters Penny Ward and Sharon Lang; and brother-in-law, Steve Wolfson.

It was in 1980 that this Assembly decided to televise its proceedings. And it was two years later, on June 1, 1982, when Gary was hired to establish a broadcast unit. That same year he oversaw the hiring of Ihor Sywanyk and Kerry Bond, our two broadcast electronics technicians, and oversaw the development of our broadcast distribution network.

In Gary's time here at the Assembly, he has seen the expansion of our broadcast from eight cities in 1983 via cable to about 120 centres presently via satellite. Most recently Gary was involved in the expansion of television broadcasts from our committee room and the replacement of our sound system here in the Chamber. I believe that last thing on Gary's list to be done is improvement to the lighting in this Chamber and compiling candid shots of MLAs' most memorable moments. He leaves completion of these projects to his successor.

I know all members will want to join me in recognizing Gary for his two decades of dedicated service to this Assembly and to wish him and his wife, Bren, all the best on a well-deserved retirement. Gary, please rise to be acknowledged. And would members please help me wish Gary well in his retirement.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Regina Douglas Park, the Minister of Finance.

**Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it was years before the Chamber became televised that I had the pleasure of knowing Gary Ward. And I was not surprised that he would have been chosen to fulfill the role of implementing this system in Saskatchewan, given his competence and experience in that area. I think it's fair to say that he has implemented a system that has been, in the main, flawless. It has not been without its challenges. It seems that technology always changes faster than budgets can increase to accommodate these changes.

There's also I think some challenges in some years when members of the legislature made decisions to sit here throughout the summer months, and that certainly created some pressure for Gary when he had a rebellious staff who had made commitments to work in summer Olympics and the challenge of keeping his staff here to provide for the broadcast.

I think, as you said, Mr. Speaker, that Gary has always sought to portray members in the Legislative Assembly in a very positive way. And we thank him for his commitment to excellence and service to the people of Saskatchewan and the Legislative Assembly. Thank you very much.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!



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

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with Mr. Speaker and the member of the government to congratulate Gary on his 23 years of service to the legislature. It has been 23 good years for him.

And take a look at this legislature. It was one of the first, if not the first to be broadcast on television across the country. It still is broadcast today although, while Gary has managed to expand it from 8 to 120 communities, he continues to lobby to expand it further.

You know, in this House, in this Assembly we expect to be lobbied by various groups. Well Gary was one of the people who did a lot of lobbying in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker, to improve the service of our broadcast facilities. We went from television to streaming, both video and audio, so that people around the world actually can view the proceedings in this House, and that was all done by Gary.

So on behalf of the official opposition, I would like to congratulate Gary for his 23 years, thank his wife for the time she allowed him to spend with us, and wish them both well for the future.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just want to join with the other members that have got up and spoke on Gary today. I have become good friends with Gary over my time in here, and I often sympathize with the guys in video services because when the members opposite are up giving one of their very — not all — but very boring speeches, I have the luxury of getting up and going for coffee. The guys in video services are stuck there, and I've felt for them many times, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Gary has done a tremendous service for the province of Saskatchewan and to the legislature and I just want to wish him and his family a Merry Christmas and the very best in their future endeavours.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Centre.

#### Go Huskies

**Hon. Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the University of Saskatchewan Huskies football team on another great season, and to wish them every success in the Vanier Cup game against the Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks this coming weekend.

Mr. Speaker, win or lose on Saturday, the Huskies can be very proud of the season they've had this year. On October 22, the Huskies clinched first place in Canada West and a week later, on the 29th, finished out the regular season undefeated with an 8-0 record.

On November 5 they beat UBC [University of British Columbia] to advance to the Hardy Cup, the Canada West final. On November 12, the Huskies defeated Alberta to win the Hardy Cup for the second year in a row and advance to the Mitchell Bowl.

On November 19 they overcame Laval to win the Mitchell Bowl and for the second consecutive year advance to play in the Vanier Cup, the symbol of Canadian university football supremacy.

Mr. Speaker, there is something relentless about the play of the Huskies this year. Clearly they're on a roll.

Mr. Speaker, again I congratulate all the players and coaches of the U of S [University of Saskatchewan] Huskies football team and I'm sure all the members here will join me in wishing them success in tomorrow's Vanier Cup. Thank you very much.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, December 6 is the day we recognize the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This day was proclaimed by parliament to raise awareness of violence towards women. It is a reminder of the tragic deaths of 14 young women killed at École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989.

One way to remember and reflect on this tragic day is the white ribbon campaign. This campaign was developed by men, for men, as a sign of opposition to violence against women in 1991. Men who wear this white ribbon have made a pledge to never commit, condone, or remain silent about violence against women. The idea behind the white ribbon campaign is to understand the causes of violence, to initiate an open discussion, and ultimately to prevent violence against women in all forms.

[10:30]

We know that violence or fear of violence is a well-known reality for many Canadian women. In Canada, two women are killed each week by domestic violence, and 50 per cent of Canadian women have survived at least one incidence of sexual or physical abuse. Violence against women is a societal issue that affects women, men, and children. We can all contribute to making our society a healthy one by supporting anti-violence work in our communities.

I ask that all members of this Assembly recognize the

importance of December 6 and help to stop all forms of violence. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### Literacy Opportunities

**Mr. Borgerson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne makes plain the vision that we on this side of the Assembly have for Saskatchewan people as we move into our new century. And a big part of that vision is ensuring that no one is left behind on the path to opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, education is a key to that vision becoming a reality. That's why the Throne Speech speaks of all children having the best possible early learning and child care experiences and why we are committed to working with all of Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions to ensure that students have access to affordable and high-quality learning opportunities. And, Mr. Speaker, it's why we've set the goal that by the time the children of our centennial graduate from high school, Saskatchewan will lead the country in educational achievement and literacy rates.

Mr. Speaker, we have a good foundation. A survey released this week by Statistics Canada shows that Saskatchewan literacy skills are among the highest in Canada and compare favourably with the best performing countries that participated in the survey.

Mr. Speaker, we have already begun building on that foundation. The Saskatchewan Literacy Commission that we announced in September will increase the opportunities for literacy development and help build a culture that supports lifelong learning.

Mr. Speaker, literacy helps build strong individuals and strong communities and will help to ensure that all Saskatchewan people can participate fully in the cultural, social, and economic life of our province. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### Member of the Legislative Assembly Speaks Out Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse

**Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to rise in the House today to highlight the tremendous contribution made by the member for Saskatoon Northwest to youth drug awareness in our province over the past number of months and, in particular, his efforts in the past two weeks.

Over the past number of months the member for Saskatoon Northwest has spoken to over 7,000 young people across the province and thousands of their parents about the problem of drug and alcohol abuse in their communities.

In addition to his work in our province, the member has also made a contribution to this issue on the national stage. Last month the member spoke at the sixth annual National Aboriginal Women in Leadership Training Conference in Montreal, where panel members discussed critical issues facing youth today such as drug abuse.

From Swift Current to Meadow Lake, from North Battleford to Gull Lake, the member has worked tirelessly to educate young people and their parents about the dangers of drugs. I don't know whether the members opposite have ever taken the opportunity to attend one of the presentations made by the member for Saskatoon Northwest and his daughter, Kelly. But let me tell you that their story is powerful and the impact upon all those in attendance is without question. Time after time, after the member's presentation, young people have approached the minister and his daughter about their own addiction problem or the problems of somebody they knew because they want help.

Mr. Speaker, getting our younger people to take that first critical step is a major accomplishment. And I would ask all members to join me in thanking him today for his ongoing work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Fairview.

### Saskatchewan Work and Family Balance Awards

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, last night I along with the Minister of Labour had the opportunity to attend the first ever biennial Saskatchewan Work and Family Balance Awards.

Mr. Speaker, there were 56 applicants for the awards and today I want to extend congratulations to the winners of the awards: AODBT Architecture Interior Design, Golder Associates Ltd., and Concentra Financial, and to the 12 other workplaces that were also honoured last night.

Mr. Speaker, the family in its many diverse forms is a key building block in civilization. Employers and employees who recognize the importance of work-family balance are true builders in today's world.

I also want to congratulate the Balancing Work and Family Alliance and Saskatchewan Labour's work and family unit for creating the awards to celebrate workplaces that support work-family balance and so reap the benefits from their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, family-friendly workplaces are less stressful for employees and enjoy lower absenteeism rates, increased recruitment and retention rates, higher morale, and greater productivity. Mr. Speaker, it is not a one-size-fits-all approach.

Employers and employees wishing to achieve a better family-workplace balance and an opportunity for an award in 2007 should contact Saskatchewan Labour's work and family unit. The unit has a range of tools and professional expertise that they can use to work with employers and employees in making a more family-friendly workplace. Thank you, Mr.

Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Lloydminster.

### Seniors' Centennial Pins

**Mr. Wakefield:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Across the province sensibly minded seniors are voicing their dismay with this government's priorities when it comes to issuing senior centennial pins.

Instead of directing more money on long-term care homes or reducing health waiting lists for seniors, the government says they are spending \$200,000 this year to issue all seniors in this province centennial pins. Many seniors are returning these pins and are questioning the government's priorities and for good reason. And I quote from a letter from Charlotte Collins in Estevan. And I quote in part:

... we are a generation who learned about values. There are evidently people in government who don't know the value of good decisions when it comes to spending tax money.

Mr. Speaker, seniors are voicing their concerns about this government's priorities, and the opposition is questioning this government's estimates about how much these pins will cost. While the government says these pins are ... and processing will cost about \$1.40 each, the real cost is likely be double that amount, probably closer to \$400,000.

Mr. Speaker, I quote from a letter from a former moderator of the United Church, Mr. Walter Farquharson, on this issue and I quote in part:

... [I wonder] why, in the name of seniors, did the government not purchase some new piece of medical ... equipment, [or] fund ... [a] scholarships ... [or commit] to a Children's Hospital.

There are many, many seniors, Mr. Speaker, including myself, questioning this government's priorities.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

**Ms. Morin:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Canada, December 6 is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. And unfortunately we will not be in session to pay tribute to this sombre occasion, so our caucus is bringing awareness to the commemorative events that will take place that day.

Mr. Speaker, the women of our caucus are wearing the commemorative buttons. However, the men of our caucus are

wearing white ribbons to signify the campaign of men working to end men's violence against women.

Last year I spoke about the gunman who roamed the corridors of Montreal's École Polytechnique and killed 14 women. I spoke about the death of those women and the need to remember them.

This was a considered, premeditated act of violence toward women. It stabbed at the heart of the aspirations of our society for decency, equity, and fairness — a person's chance to grow and be all that they desire to be. Education, opening the realms of freedom and possibility, cost 14 young women engineers their lives.

There are women and girls who live daily with the threat of violence or who have died as a result of deliberate acts of gender-based violence.

Out of this tragedy we have been given an occasion to focus on the violence against women that still permeates our society, the violence and threat of violence that women in Canada face every day. We should assess our response over the past year and our progress toward eliminating violence from women's lives and plan for the future by recommitting ourselves to non-violence.

The dreams of those 14 young women should always survive. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

### ORAL QUESTIONS

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

### Job Creation Record

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier today. I began this short fall session by asking the Premier how in the world could the NDP [New Democratic Party] government possibly lose 6,200 jobs in the province of Saskatchewan in the middle of an oil boom, Mr. Speaker.

Well the job numbers are out today, and the news is tragic for young people in the province, for everyone in Saskatchewan who wants to see us grow. It seems as though the NDP have managed to kill another 5,800 jobs, Mr. Speaker. That's what the new job numbers say this morning.

Now when the job numbers went south a couple of months ago, the Minister of Labour said it was a glitch. Last month when they lost 6,200 jobs, the Minister of Economic Development said it's an aberration. Here's the third month in a row — 5,800 jobs, Mr. Speaker. We think it might be the NDP government, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — Will this Premier stand up and explain how in the world he can possibly be presiding over massive job losses in the middle of an oil boom?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, no one in this House or in this government is happy or pleased when we see job numbers declining in our province. Mr. Speaker, I remind members of the legislature and the general public, for 17 consecutive reporting months, job numbers grew in this province — for 17 consecutive months. I want to remind members of this legislature, including the Leader of the Opposition, that in fact this November's numbers are the second highest job numbers for the month of November in the history of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — That said, Mr. Speaker, according to the numbers released today, we see decline significantly in the service sector. The question, Mr. Speaker — which I'll have more to say about — is what are we planning to do about this, Mr. Speaker?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Well not that I'm not looking forward to that part of the Premier's answers this morning, what he is going to do about it, but I think the people of the province of Saskatchewan have already decided what to do about it. It involves firing that government opposite, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, the point is the Premier wants to travel back in time. Over the last five years this province under his leadership has posted the worst job-creation record in the entire Dominion of Canada, Mr. Speaker. And right now the Canadian economy is experiencing record job growth. Look at the other provinces this morning, the job numbers out: 2,300 new jobs in the province of Manitoba; 28,000 new jobs in the province of Alberta; 95,000 new jobs in the province of British Columbia, Mr. Speaker, which proves two things, which proves two things. It's good to never have an NDP government, i.e., Alberta. But, Mr. Speaker, it's even better to have an NDP government and punt them out like they did in British Columbia.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — To the Premier, to the Premier of the province, in an oil boom, how can he be presiding over the worst job-creation record in all of Canada?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, it's pretty clear the people of Saskatchewan know what the motivation of the Leader of the Opposition is. Is he interested in the young people of Saskatchewan? Is he interested in this economy, or is he interested in his own political future which may be shortened with the arrival of that fellow from Kindersley, Mr. Bill Boyd?

Mr. Speaker, this government takes these issues very seriously. We have in this session, Mr. Speaker, in this short session alone, brought to bear on building a green and prosperous economy the results of our business tax review, seeking greater competitiveness for investment. But we're not just talking about taxation, Mr. Speaker. In the course of this session alone, we've talked about skills training, providing the training necessary for the young people of Saskatchewan.

And, Mr. Speaker, we've talked about, in this session, the commission for opportunities for working people, Mr. Speaker. We're working with working people to build a green and a prosperous economy, Mr. Speaker.

I ask the Leader of the Opposition, where is his vision? Where is the vision of that conservative party over there for the future of the Saskatchewan economy?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, this side of the House understands with clarity that what we need in this province is a growth agenda that consists of three things that the rest of the world has figured out, whether they have Labour or Conservative governments. And those three things are reducing barriers to growth, ensuring we've invested in infrastructure, and a long-term plan for post-secondary education, Mr. Speaker.

This side of the House understands it. What do we get in terms of vision from that side of the House? We get a Premier who calls us the wee province. We get a former minister of Economic Development, when confronted with out-migration, who says, don't worry about it when people leave, he said to people in Saskatchewan, because when they leave there is more left for the rest of us, Mr. Speaker.

That's the vision on that side of the House. And I think in the wake of these job numbers, there are a certain number of people in Saskatchewan who would agree, Mr. Speaker, in part with that former minister, that if those people would leave, there would be more left for the rest of us, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — He still is unable to stand in his place and explain to Saskatchewan people why he has lost 6,000 jobs in the middle of an oil boom and driven more young people out of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[10:45]

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition talks about a growth agenda. I'll tell you about a growth agenda. Under the stewardship of a New Democratic Party government in Saskatchewan, in the last two years, we have the second highest level of growth — GDP [gross domestic product] growth — in the nation of Canada. That's a growth agenda.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — This, Mr. Speaker, is not the kind of political rhetoric and visionless statements that come from the opposition opposite and its leader, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are building this green and prosperous economy. We are building diverse and growing communities. And we're building an unbreakable social fabric by working with our business community, by working with our educational institutions, by working with our young people, and by working with working people in this province, Mr. Speaker, as opposed to declaring war on working people as the Leader of the Opposition did on the John Gormley show not long ago.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — You know, Mr. Speaker, there is nothing that underscores to a greater extent how out of touch that Premier is with the people of the province than his last answer. Because he's talking, he's telling Saskatchewan people that everything is fine.

We're losing young people, Mr. Speaker. We lost population in the middle of an oil boom last year. And we're losing jobs, Mr. Speaker. And when we lose jobs and people, we lose the energy of our province. We lose the spirit of our province, Mr. Speaker. We lose those who bring charity and ties and who contribute taxes. How out of touch that answer was, Mr. Speaker.

Here we have the situation in the province of Saskatchewan where the province of BC [British Columbia] is creating jobs, the province of Manitoba is creating jobs, the province of Alberta is creating jobs, the nation is creating jobs at a record level, and here in Saskatchewan in an oil boom under the NDP, we are losing jobs.

Mr. Speaker, to the Premier. Why doesn't he admit, Mr. Speaker, that whatever clue they had about the economy has died of loneliness?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, it is the experience of Saskatchewan people that glib one-liners never created a job for anybody in this province.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, what creates jobs for the people of Saskatchewan is good partnerships — partnerships between the public sector, the private sector; partnerships with educational institutions; and partnerships with working people. The very people, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition stands in the House and purports to support, the very people . . . He goes on public radio and says on public radio in response to a journalist's question about labour, the journalist says, Mr. Gormley says, are you going to war? And the Leader of the Opposition says, it's part of our policy. He says on public radio, Mr. Speaker, maybe going to the war, maybe going to war with working people is the way to phrase it.

We don't believe, Mr. Speaker, going to war with working people brings jobs to Saskatchewan. We believe working with business, working with the educational institutions, working with the community, working with working people will make it happen.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### Economic Growth

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Here's some news for that Premier. We are going to war; we're going to war with the NDP and that government.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, here's what the Premier said on March 27, 1990, Premier's words, March 27, 1990: ". . . the [only] growth industry in Saskatchewan in this decade has been the food banks." True words today, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what we needed from this government was a commitment to act on the road map to recovery outlined by Jack Vicq. We needed some indication this government had a plan to fix the tax system that stifles economic growth in our province today.

Instead, Mr. Speaker, what did we get from this government and this Finance minister? This Finance minister said, we are not in election mode. When asked if he will make the changes necessary, he said, I will have to convince my caucus and cabinet colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, if not now, when? When is this government going to do something about changing this economy?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, I want the member from Saskatoon to know — who I think is the Finance critic over there — I want the member from Saskatoon to know that when he declares war on the New Democratic Party, he is declaring war on working people, farming people, business people, educators across Saskatchewan. And, Mr. Speaker, he ought to be very, very careful; he ought to be very, very careful about

that kind of rhetoric.

**The Speaker:** — Order please. Order please. Order. The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — And, Mr. Speaker, what did, what did a former Conservative prime minister of Canada once say? When you throw a rock in the dark and all the yelping starts, you know you've hit something over there.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, the member opposite talks about building economy, building economy. In this very session, Mr. Speaker, we have introduced a skills training review, a skills training review to look at the whole opportunity for young people to be trained for this new economy.

We've introduced the business tax review. We will soon receive the work of the commission on building opportunities for working people in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. We are building an economy. We see it in the growth of the GDP numbers, Mr. Speaker. We believe in the future of this province as opposed to the negativity over there.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### State of Health Care

**Mr. McMorris:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to quote words from the Premier on June 1988, and this is what the Premier had to say. He had to say, “. . . it's a sad day for a Saskatchewan family when a loved one must flee this province to find . . . [health] care she needs.” That's what the Premier had to say in 1988.

Mr. Speaker, what we need in this province is a long-term strategy to recruit and retain health care professionals — doctors, nurses, and other professionals. What we need in this province is more O.R. [operating room] time for surgeons and less waiting time in emergency rooms, Mr. Speaker. But what we've got from this NDP government is the longest waiting lists in Canada. What we learned last week, Mr. Speaker, from this NDP government is that we lose more doctors than any other province, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what we hear continually from that Minister of Health is excuses, excuses, excuses. When are they going to start addressing the problems in health care in this province?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, in this session alone, hundreds of millions of dollars expended to provide health care for the people of Saskatchewan, a \$100 million investment in the long-term future of health care for the people of Saskatchewan through an investment in the new academic health sciences building which will lead, which will lead the nation, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — And only and, Mr. Speaker, only this very day, only this very day reported in the *Regina Leader-Post*, the arrival of Saskatchewan's new MRI [magnetic resonance imaging] delivered and being installed today, Mr. Speaker.

Yes we continue to have challenges, Mr. Speaker. We are investing to meet those challenges. And I remind the Leader of the Opposition over there that the people who deliver health care in this province — nurses, LPNs [licensed practical nurse], technicians, people who are working on the wards and in the kitchens and in the caretaking of health care institutions — Mr. Speaker, these are working people with whom he wants to declare war.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Wood River.

#### Property Tax Relief

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, here's what that Premier had to say about honesty in government, and I quote, “. . . men and women . . . have the right to expect that commitments made ought to be binding.”

What we needed this session was the Premier to live up to a long-standing commitment for real property tax relief — and I repeat — real property tax relief. We needed a commitment from that government to start paying its fair share for education. What we got were more broken promises, Mr. Speaker. We got a big, fat zero just like the Premier's equalization campaign. Mr. Speaker, to the Premier, why has nothing changed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, the member asks for real action on property tax. What part of \$55 million isn't real to the member? What part of \$110 million isn't real to the member opposite?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — That's the problem with these conservative-type people across the way. They don't understand the reality of tax dollars, Mr. Speaker. One hundred and ten million dollars, a commitment in the Throne Speech to work with our educational regions, with the municipalities to find a long-term plan for the funding of quality education in the province of Saskatchewan — that's our commitment.

It's in the Throne Speech. It's visionary. What do we hear from them? The same kind of financial gobbledegook we've heard when they were in government.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for

Kelvington-Wadena.

### Support for People in Need

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, here's what the Premier had to say in June 1998 when this government still had the pretense of caring more about people than politics. I quote:

... I think of the hundreds of families that have turned to food banks in this province. Are they a priority of [this] government? No, they are forgotten by this government.

What we needed in this session, what the people of Saskatchewan needed in this session was treatment beds to deal with those suffering with the pain of addiction. People of Saskatchewan needed a reduction in taxes for low-income earners. We needed a food allowance that was tied to the rate of inflation.

But what did we get from this NDP government? We got higher food bank usage, new ministers complete with political staff instead of treatment beds, and a brand new airport for the Premier and his ministers to replace the one that was good enough for the Queen. Why has nothing changed for this NDP government?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, in this session through its Throne Speech we introduced a long-term vision for the people of Saskatchewan — a vision that says we will build in this province an unbreakable social fabric, a province where no one is left behind. We believe and we recognize, Mr. Speaker, there are citizens of our province who are being left behind, whether it's in education, whether it's in the justice system, whether it's in income, whether it's in the workplace, Mr. Speaker. And we're standing with them, and we're working with them, Mr. Speaker.

In this session alone we've added \$30 million to lift the wages of many of our citizens who are working ... [inaudible] ... our most vulnerable people.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — In this session alone, Mr. Speaker, \$16 million in new adequacy for those at the lowest levels of income in our province, Mr. Speaker.

In this past year we have set forth a plan to raise the minimum wage in regular review and to an adequate level, Mr. Speaker, against the opposition over there. Our solution is not one quick tax cut. Our solution is working with people.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

### Help for Farmers

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

**Mr. Bjornerud:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, here's what the Premier said when he was in opposition in 1991. "We have a rural Saskatchewan on the brink of economic collapse."

And what was their solution, Mr. Speaker, when they got elected government? To cancel the GRIP [gross revenue insurance program] program. Here we are, Mr. Speaker, 14 years later and farmers in Saskatchewan still have no replacement, no adequate farm program.

Today we have auction companies in Saskatchewan saying they are double-booked for this spring, double from what sales were for last year. And, Mr. Speaker, many of the days this auction company is talking about, they have four sales in one day.

Mr. Speaker, when will that Premier, who was so concerned in '91 when he was in opposition, pay attention to what's going on in rural Saskatchewan? When will he pay attention and help farmers in rural Saskatchewan get through this bad time when farmers need help, Mr. Speaker?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, over the past, the course of the past two years, we have stood with our beef producers as they faced closed borders, Mr. Speaker. Over the past two years the province of Saskatchewan, the people of Saskatchewan through their government, have invested \$1.2 billion in support for Saskatchewan's farm families, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — One point two billion dollars. I ask that member, I ask the leader of these conservatives across the way, I ask them now what's been going on in Ottawa with their Conservative friends in Ottawa. How is it that we have not heard the voice of the Conservative Party in Ottawa calling for a fairer deal for the people of Saskatchewan when it comes to the support of family farms in Saskatchewan? How come we've not heard them raise the voice for a better share of funding instead of this 60/40 which is asking the very farmer who is suffering to bear the cost of the suffering?

Mr. Speaker, we need a loud voice, not just from that group, but we need their friends in Ottawa to be doing the same thing, the kind of thing that the Minister of Agriculture and this government is doing — demanding a fair deal for the farmers of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[11:00]

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

### Priorities of This Legislative Session

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, where was that Premier's party and that Premier's federal leader in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, when he

had the chance to influence the federal Liberal government? Were there any Saskatchewan items on his list of things for Paul Martin?

Did he talk about an energy accord and get that deal for Saskatchewan? No he didn't, Mr. Speaker. Did he get a better agriculture deal for Saskatchewan farmers? No he didn't, Mr. Speaker. Like his provincial counterparts, Mr. Speaker, the federal New Democratic Leader failed the people of the province.

This government and this Premier have failed the people with respect to drug addictions treatment. They have failed the people of the province with respect to farm policy. This Premier has failed the people of the province with respect to tax relief or a plan for the economy, Mr. Speaker.

Will the Premier just stand in his place and admit that his government has lost its way, they're disconnected from the people of the province, and that it's time for an election in the province of Saskatchewan?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the Leader of the Opposition has introduced into the discussion today the debate about what goes on in the House of Commons when New Democrats can shape a federal budget. I'll tell you what goes on for the people of Saskatchewan. I'll tell you what goes on. As a result of Jack Layton and the federal New Democratic Party there are hundreds of millions of dollars now available to Canadians and to students in Saskatchewan for post-secondary education.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Now you know what? If that leader and his friends in Ottawa had succeeded in their unholy alliance with the sovereigntists from Quebec, we might have got a corporate tax cut; that's what we might have got.

But I'll tell you, the students of Saskatchewan see benefit. Public transportation in this province sees benefit. That's the work of New Democrats in Ottawa. It's the work of New Democrats in Saskatchewan. We govern for people and not just for our friends.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, heaven help us, Mr. Speaker. Heaven help this province if they're going to continue to govern in that way for the people of Saskatchewan because we can't take it any more, Mr. Speaker. This province cannot possibly stand any more good governance from the NDP.

We can't stand the fact that in the middle of an oil boom . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. Order. Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, this is amazing. Here's what the Premier says, here's what the Premier represents as good governance or good representation. His federal counterpart gets nothing for Saskatchewan though he has Paul Martin right where he wants him — no energy accord, no agriculture money.

And here in this province, here in this province in an oil boom, in a gas boom, the Premier characterizes this province as being on an economic roll. On an economic roll in NDP terms means what, Mr. Speaker? That we would lose young people; that we would lose jobs; the only province in Canada, the worst job-creation record in all of the country, the longest waiting lists for health care, no plan for drug addictions, Mr. Speaker.

We need an election in this province. Let the federal election happen. Will the Premier call one early in the spring so we can settle the matter, Mr. Speaker?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, here is the vivid example of the difference between this government and this conservative-type opposition we've got here, Mr. Speaker. I'll tell you, here's a government with vision. Here's a government with value, and here's a government that has committed plans and practical solutions to the issues facing Saskatchewan people.

Now the Leader of the Opposition amuses me a little. He says we should have an election. We should call an election. The next election he should be worried about, Mr. Speaker, is his own, is his own. Because, you know, the only question that really hasn't been answered . . . oh there's two questions not answered in this session.

The first is, will Bill Boyd, will he win in Kindersley? That's uncertain. But I'll tell you, Mr. Speaker, the next question is that if Mr. Boyd wins in Kindersley, which seat will he occupy in this House? Will it be the seat of the deputy leader, or will it be the seat of the Leader of the Opposition? That's the only question left.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Order. The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again we see the Premier practicing for what will happen after the next election. He's asking me questions. His question is where will the member for Kindersley sit after the next election? Well I'll tell him. Not exactly, maybe, but he's going to be sitting on that side of the House, Mr. Speaker. That's where he's going to be sitting.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, this session has underscored for the people of the province that this government is disconnected



from the people — they've lost touch. This session has settled the matter, Mr. Speaker, that their priorities are wrong. The only jobs they are creating are jobs for NDP . . .

**The Speaker:** — Just a little order, members, please. Order. Order. Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only jobs that they are creating are jobs for NDP MLAs to sit in the cabinet, except for maybe one, Mr. Speaker. Their priorities demonstrate that they've got money for his own personal airport, but none for drug addiction treatment beds in the province, Mr. Speaker. Their priorities show they've got more money, more money for government advertising, Mr. Speaker, but not enough for meaningful tax relief or a growth agenda, Mr. Speaker.

They've got money for any number of things about the NDP's political agenda and the culture of entitlement, but not for the people of this province. Will he explain to Saskatchewan why he has no plan and why he apparently has lost touch so desperately with the people of this province?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the enthusiastic support from the opposition, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think I just heard the Leader of the Opposition suggest that Mr. Boyd might someday find himself in government. I'll tell you, Mr. Speaker, the New Democratic Party government doesn't want Bill Boyd.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — And I particularly don't want Mr. Boyd who says quote, quote, when he's talking about his own party, "The Conservative side has always worn the pants in this marriage . . ."

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Well we know about that, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I tell you we are going to continue building this great province of Saskatchewan.

We've had this great centennial year. We have momentum going into our new year. We are going to build a province that has a green and a prosperous economy, a province with diverse and growing communities, welcoming new immigrants, Mr. Speaker, working with our First Nations and Aboriginal peoples to build this province so that no one, Mr. Speaker, in Saskatchewan gets left behind on this pathway to opportunity in a province that has an unbreakable social fabric, reflecting the values and the vision of the people of Saskatchewan. That's what this government is about, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Why is the member for Regina South on his feet?

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. As much

as I enjoy this, I would request leave to introduce guests if I may.

**The Speaker:** — Order members. Members, we will continue with routine proceedings. Order members. The Chair recognizes . . . the member for Regina South has requested leave to make introductions. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The Chair recognizes the member for Regina South.

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Well thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased today to introduce to you an esteemed group of Saskatchewan men and women who have joined us in the Assembly.

Today is the first . . . in fact it is the inaugural meeting of the Saskatchewan Literacy Commission that this government has established. The members of the Literacy Commission are joining us here today to share with us later on today some of their advice and expertise and how it is we can improve Saskatchewan's literacy skills, not only for our young people and our children but also for adults who are entering and re-entering the workforce.

The members of the Literacy Commission Advisory Board bring a broad range of experience and have demonstrated both personal and professional interest in literacy and the areas that we have identified.

The board is chaired by Dr. Margaret Lipp, and I would just ask members to stand as I introduce them. Of course Dr. Lipp is very well known in this Assembly and has served this province very ably during her years with the Department of Education and the Department of Learning.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Thank you. Yes, maybe we should just wait till I introduce them all. There are a few, and then we can offer applause.

Gladys Christiansen is the director of education for the Lac La Ronge First Nation and a very strong advocate for First Nations literacy. Gladys. Very good, thank you.

Deirdre Crichton is the regional director for the Parkland Regional Library. Libraries play an integral part in our strategy for building literacy in our province.

Dr. Ann Curry is the assistant director of the Saskatchewan Instructional Development and Research Unit, which most of us will know as SIDRU, at the University of Regina.

Bula Ghosh is the vice-president of the Cypress Hills Regional College and brings an excellent understanding of the needs of rural people in terms of building literacy in our rural communities.

Keith Hanson is with us. Keith is the president of the Sun Ridge Group and director of the Saskatchewan Home Builders' Association and a long-time advocate for us working on skills improvement for Saskatchewan working people.

Holly Hetherington is also joining us. Holly is well known to the members of this Assembly for her work as a business Co-Chair of the Saskatchewan Labour Force Development Board and is a Co-Chair for the youth, education and training committee of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Vicki Ignierowicz has extensive experience in the immigrant community. She has spent a great amount of her professional time working with heritage language instruction and English as a second language. And her skills will be extremely valuable as we work to bring more immigrants into our community and improve their literacy skills.

Fay Stupnikoff is here with us today from Prince Albert. It is a pleasure to have Fay on the board as she has done a great amount of work in the community of Prince Albert around literacy work and is currently with the P.A. [Prince Albert] Parkland Regional Health Authority.

Another member, Michael Zaplitny, who of course is well known to members of this House for his work in the business community, is the president of the Regina Chamber of Commerce, and we're very pleased to have his perspective on the board today also.

There are two additional members that were not able to join us today, Mr. Speaker, but I do want to recognize them. Brian Opikokew is the director of programs at the Flying Dust First Nation, and has agreed to served on the board, as has Chief Marie-Anne Day Walker-Pelletier from the Okanese First Nation. And of course as members will know, she is not able to join us today due to the recent death of her husband.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to welcome all the members of the board. I want to thank them for agreeing to take on this task for us today. This is a remarkable opportunity that we have to build our province, to improve our literacy skills, and to make sure Saskatchewan people are able to take advantage of the economic opportunities being presented today.

So I'd ask all members to join me in welcoming this esteemed group of men and women.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a pleasure for me this morning to join with the minister in welcoming Dr. Lipp and the Saskatchewan Literacy Commission to the Chamber. Mr. Speaker, I'm particularly pleased that this group is here on the last day of the fall session because it might be compared to the exuberance that you'd experience on the last day of school.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge with particular gratitude the work that the Literacy Commission does on behalf of all citizens of Saskatchewan. Certainly there's a tremendous

mixture of expertise and background knowledge in the commission's members, board of members.

And I think that's important because it's not just . . . literacy is not just important for business opportunities; it's important for people to build a greater sense of self-worth and pride and knowledge in the fact that they have greater literacy skills and so that the work that the commission does is very important and very much appreciated.

So thank you for all the work you do, and thank you for being here in your Assembly today.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety.

### New Waste Water Treatment System for Fort Qu'Appelle

**Hon. Mr. Prebble:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm rising today in my capacity as Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation. And I'm pleased to announce, Mr. Speaker, that Saskatchewan Water Corporation has entered into an agreement with the town of Fort Qu'Appelle to construct a new waste water treatment system.

SaskWater is our province's Crown water utility, and I am proud to say it is the only provincially owned Crown water utility in Canada. Its role is to work with communities in Saskatchewan to help them address their water quality concerns in a well-planned and cost-effective manner.

Our government is proud that SaskWater is now delivering quality water or waste water services to more than 50 municipalities. The agreement with the town of Fort Qu'Appelle will mark the 51st municipality that SaskWater delivers these services to.

In the case of the new agreement with the town of Fort Qu'Appelle, SaskWater will construct an aerated holding pond to collect the town's waste water and will build a pumping station and a 3.2 kilometre high-density polyethylene pipeline to transfer the waste water out of the Qu'Appelle Valley to a new lagoon site north of Fort Qu'Appelle.

[11:15]

When complete, the new lagoon will have a primary treatment cell and a storage cell sized to promote total evaporation of the waste water. With this new system, Mr. Speaker, treated effluent will no longer be discharged into the Qu'Appelle River as is presently the case. In fact the new system avoids discharge into any waterway. It will be a zero discharge system.

SaskWater will tender for construction of the project in February or March 2006 and expects that the new waste water treatment system will be in place to serve the residents of Fort Qu'Appelle by December 2006. Prior to tender, SaskWater is seeking input and advice from community members to ensure their views and concerns are addressed. I was pleased to attend

a public meeting this week in Fort Qu'Appelle as part of this process. Upon completion of the project, Mr. Speaker, SaskWater will operate the new waste water treatment system for the town of Fort Qu'Appelle.

I want to congratulate the members of the Fort Qu'Appelle Town Council and Fort Qu'Appelle Mayor Ron Osika for taking this initiative to improve their waste water treatment system. And I want to thank the staff at SaskWater for the important service they are providing to the people of Fort Qu'Appelle and to the people of Saskatchewan. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Eagles:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I would like to thank the minister and his staff for providing me a copy with the ministerial statement just prior to routine proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, everyone knows the importance of a clean drinking water supply and proper waste water treatment services. We sometimes take for granted the fact that we do not face the same challenges that many in the world do when it comes to water and waste water treatment. But that does not mean that we in this country and province do not face challenges in these important areas.

Mr. Speaker, I think we all know the recent news that has come out of Kashechewan and the dire situation their water supply is in. We also have seen the tragic results of contaminated water in Walkerton and in North Battleford. And each year, Mr. Speaker, many communities in Saskatchewan are issued boil-water advisories. Water safety is an important issue that we must never take for granted.

And I do note from the minister's remarks that the new system in Fort Qu'Appelle will no longer discharge effluent into the Qu'Appelle River. And that proves that water treatment is not only an issue of safety but also an environmental concern, Mr. Speaker. I'm looking forward to watching this project unfold over the coming year and look forward to the time when the minister will come before the Crown and Central Agencies Committee so that we can discuss this further. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

## STATEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

### Use of Titles During Debate

**The Speaker:** — I wish to bring down two rulings. First of all I wish to bring to the attention of members concerned about language used in the Chamber, when using titles of ministers and/or parties in debate in the legislature members will be required to respect the dignity of the House and its members by using the official titles assigned to political parties and to ministers.

For additional guidance I refer members to Beauchesne's citation 482 on page 142 and a previous Speaker's ruling of March 29, 1996. The use of humour and good taste add to the

debate. However, engaging in name-calling lowers the level of debate and discredits all members. While in debate, members who do not use proper titles will be considered out of order.

### Ruling on Bill Nos. 27 and 201 of 2005

**The Speaker:** — The second ruling. I draw to the attention of members that this Assembly has two Bills on the order paper that contain provisions with substantially the same purpose — Bill No. 27, The Youth Drug Detoxification and Stabilization Act, and Bill No. 201, The Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act. Both Bills propose a means to detain youth for the purposes of detoxification in situations of drug abuse. According to Erskine May *Parliamentary Practice*, 22nd edition, page 499, quote:

There is no . . . rule or custom which restrains the presentation of two or more bills relating to the same subject, and containing similar provisions. But if a decision of the House has already been taken on one such bill, for example, if the bill has been given or refused a second reading, the other is not proceeded with if it contains substantially the same provisions . . .

This Legislative Assembly has numerous precedents on the subject of the same question rule with respect to Bills. It has been ruled that once the Assembly has given or refused second reading to one Bill the Speaker must then prevent any further consideration of the other Bill. On November 28, 2005 Bill No. 27 received second reading and consequently it is necessary that I order that Bill No. 201 be removed from the order paper.

The Chair recognizes the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, before orders of the day, with leave of the Assembly, to move two motions of condolence.

**The Speaker:** — The Premier has requested leave to move two motions of condolence. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The Chair recognizes the Premier.

## CONDOLENCES

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. With both of these motions, they will be seconded by the Leader of the Opposition.

At the close of a few words I will make the formal motion first in respect to the passing of John Egnatoff.

Mr. Speaker, before we move the formal motion of condolence, it will be recognized by many, many in this House that John Egnatoff was a man who devoted his life to the service of others and the service of our province.

John Egnatoff was born on the family homestead near Perdue, Saskatchewan — which is my wife's hometown and their families have had a long relationship — the Egnatoff family

well known in the community of Perdue.

When John Egnatoff graduated from high school, he then attended normal school, and as with many others his own teaching career began in a one-room schoolhouse. By the time he retired, Mr. Speaker, John Egnatoff, Doctor of Education, was head of the department of educational administration at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

In the intervening years he had served as a teacher, a principal, an administrator, and a professor. He brought his unfailing commitment and considerable skills to his role as president of the STF, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, and to numerous provincial and national boards and committees, including the Saskatchewan and Canadian school trustees' associations.

His life was as varied as his many accomplishments and contributions. For instance during the Second World War, John Egnatoff served as a Russian translator during that conflict. After his retirement, Mr. Speaker, as an active Rotarian, he established the first four Rotary clubs in Nigeria.

John Egnatoff, a devoted family man and a career educator, believed that the foundations of a strong society were family, school, and church. He was a lifetime member of the Baptist Church. He served as a faithful and a very active deacon in the First Baptist Church of Saskatoon.

John Egnatoff was a young man, a young man of 33 years of age, when he was first elected to this Assembly as member of the Liberal Party for the constituency of Melfort. But his commitment to his party and his support and encouragement of Liberal candidates lasted much longer than his career here as a legislator in Regina.

John Egnatoff was a man who believed that public service was indeed a high calling. For his lifetime of distinguished service as an educator, as a legislator, as a citizen, Dr. Egnatoff was invested as a member of the Order of Canada in 1981. But perhaps the honour that John Egnatoff most cherished — a superbly appropriate honour, if I may say, Mr. Speaker — is the school in Saskatoon that bears his name, Dr. John Egnatoff School.

In closing my remarks before moving the formal motion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to let Dr. Egnatoff's inspirational words speak for themselves in what I hope will be an enduring exhortation to each one of us who today occupy the seats of this legislature. He said, quote:

The responsibility for nation building is an obligation no citizen can escape. Our nation will be as strong or as weak as we make it. It will be as good or as bad as we make it.

So, Mr. Speaker, by leave of the Assembly, I move, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he made to his community, his constituency, and to the province.

**John George Egnatoff**, who passed away on August 12, 2005, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1948 until 1952 representing the constituency of Melfort for the Liberal Party.

Mr. Egnatoff was born on August 18, 1914 on his parents' homestead near Perdue. He received his early education in Saskatoon at King Edward and Wilson Elementary schools and at City Park Collegiate. Mr. Egnatoff trained to be a teacher at the provincial normal school and at the University of Saskatchewan. He completed post-graduate studies at the Ontario College of Education and at the University of Toronto.

Mr. Egnatoff married Mildred Chard on August 18, 1941. He is survived by his wife and two children.

Mr. Egnatoff devoted his career to the field of education. He began as a teacher in a one-room school before assuming administrative duties as a principal. In 1958 he joined the staff of the Teachers' College before moving to the University of Saskatchewan in 1964. He remained at the university until his retirement in 1978 as head of the department of educational administration.

Mr. Egnatoff's influence on the development of education extended beyond the classroom. His tenure on the Saskatoon Board of Education as a trustee and Chair extended over two decades. He served as president of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, the Saskatchewan and Canadian school trustees' organizations, and was a life member of the Canadian Education Association. Mr. Egnatoff's dedication to the field of education was recognized by his investiture into the Order of Canada in 1981 and by the unique honour of having a school named after him.

Mr. Egnatoff volunteered his time with a variety of local organizations. He was an active life deacon with the First Baptist Church and a community panel member of the National Parole Board. He acted as director of the Forum of Young Canadians and served on the board of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

Over the course of his 58-year membership in Rotary, Mr. Egnatoff helped establish four new clubs in Saskatoon and Nigeria while also serving as district governor. He received the Rotary Golden Wheel Award for excellence in education and community service in 1995.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy with members of the bereaved family.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Premier, the member for Riversdale, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Swift Current:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution he

made to his community, his constituency, and to the province, with respect to John Egnatoff.

The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to join with the Premier in this condolence motion this morning. Mr. Speaker, I note with interest that both former members that we are honouring today are former educators, former teachers.

John George Egnatoff, of course, was more than an educator. He was involved in, literally, and contributed to every facet of education in our province. His life was dedicated to the betterment of the students that grew up in his community and in his classroom, and no doubt he continued to provide that educational leadership as a member of this Assembly and obviously in his capacity at the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, like everyone in this Assembly, I owe a debt of gratitude to the tireless professionals who were part of my formative years, who were my teachers. They should take a significant amount of credit, or perhaps from time to time some blame, for what I am today. And whatever it is that I am able to contribute today, I think it's true that all of us owe that to our teachers that we've had growing up, in addition to family and friends and peers.

You know, Mr. Speaker, he continued to provide that kind of positive influence even as a member and even through his involvement at the university.

[11:30]

His influence extended well beyond the classroom. He was a member and an officer of any number of professional associations, both provincial and national, and involved in international endeavours, as we heard, with respect to Rotary International. Like many other educators, he devoted his life to making sure Saskatchewan students had the skills they need to survive in jobs that would see tremendous, tremendous technological change.

Those Saskatchewan students, the people that he influenced, those young men and women and those children that he had a chance to directly influence both in his life as a legislator and as an educator, they've taken up positions of leadership in this province and frankly across this country — positions of leadership in government and in the private sector in business, in the voluntary sector, in all endeavours, Mr. Speaker.

Because of teachers like Mr. Egnatoff and those who prized and prioritized education, as legislators, we are all better prepared then because of that to face the challenges that lay ahead. And so he left things better than he found them in the classroom and in his community and at the university, Mr. Speaker, and here in the Legislative Assembly.

So on behalf of the official opposition, and frankly on behalf of a generation of Saskatchewan educators and the children that benefited from their leadership and their teaching and his leadership and his teaching, I want to second the motion of condolence by the Premier today and pass along our thoughts and condolences and best wishes to Mr. Egnatoff's family.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member from Melfort.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure for me today to have the opportunity to rise and join in the tributes to Dr. John George Egnatoff who passed away and who represented the Melfort constituency.

Mr. Speaker, when Carole and I and our family moved to Melfort in 1980, Mr. Egnatoff had already left the community a little more than a decade before that, so we never had the pleasure of knowing him personally in the same community.

But I recognize and note and recall with interest that when I was involved with the board of education in the mid-'80s in Melfort, on many occasions the name of Dr. Egnatoff would come up in a very complimentary way about the contribution he had made to education in the Melfort community. And his reputation went beyond that into the service club work and the community work that he was involved with.

I think it's very significant when you find after someone has left a community for over a decade his name is still mentioned with respect and appreciation in a community, that you realize that that individual must have meant a great deal to the community.

After I was elected in 1991, I had the opportunity of meeting Dr. John Egnatoff. And he took me aside and he said, you know, Rod, he said, I was a Liberal MLA from Melfort from 1948 to 1952. And he said, I did such a fine job that not another one was elected for 40 years. And I thought it sort of represented the sense of humour of the man that he could make those kinds of self-deprecating jokes about himself that recognized the fact that he was very comfortable with who he was.

Mr. Speaker, there are many people in Saskatchewan who come and move their way through a career and a profession like Dr. Egnatoff did. He started very simply with a teacher certificate and began teaching in a one-room school and moved up, including the experience and the time he spent in the community of Melfort, and went on to develop himself and his expertise so that he prepared teachers for their career in education.

Right across this province I think, Mr. Speaker, people have heard, particularly in the field of learning, of Dr. John George Egnatoff, and they mention his name with respect and appreciation. And on behalf of the community of Melfort, I would like to add our voices in appreciation to Dr. Egnatoff and to extend our condolences and best wishes to his family.

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

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed an honour and a privilege to join with the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, and the member from Melfort in honouring Dr. John George Egnatoff.

Dr. Egnatoff was a person that I had met many times. He was active in the Saskatoon community, especially when his health permitted. He was involved in various aspects of the community and often attended chamber of commerce functions. Anything to do with education and anything to do with honouring people in the community, you could always find John George Egnatoff there.

The name Dr. John Egnatoff was something I heard as a young child many, many times in my family. There are many teachers in my family, and they all attended normal school in Saskatoon in the late 1950s. And I know my mother, Lucy Cheveldayoff, was taught by Dr. Egnatoff as well as two uncles, John Kalmakoff, Nick Cheveldayoff, and a couple of aunts, Marilyn Postnikoff and Doreen Kalmakoff.

All were at normal school at that time. And I can't help but think, Mr. Speaker, that Dr. Egnatoff's challenge at normal school at that time was similar to your challenge in keeping us in line in the House. Because I know that the characters that my uncles and aunts and indeed my mother would have been at that time and some of the antics that they would try to pull in his classroom at the normal school, but I know that Dr. Egnatoff, he ruled with an iron fist. And I know that he was a no-nonsense type of guy and I know that they benefited and learned a great deal from Dr. Egnatoff.

It's been mentioned here earlier that Dr. Egnatoff was on the board of the Forum for Young Canadians, as director for Saskatchewan I believe. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege and honour of being an attendee at Forum for Young Canadians in Ottawa. I'm just going to tell you a little bit about that program. And it serves to exemplify Dr. Egnatoff's passion for Canada and for nation building.

The Forum for Young Canadians is a program that brought young people from across Canada into Ottawa to learn about the political process, to learn about the judiciary, to learn about the Supreme Court, the House of Commons, and to learn also about the operations of the government, like the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and also about the National Defence area.

Dr. John Egnatoff was certainly someone who had an influence on teachers in Saskatchewan but also on students. The Forum for Young Canadians was a grade 11 program that again brought people from across the country, Saskatchewan individuals such as myself, and were roomed . . . you know, had roommates from Quebec and other provinces. And it enabled us to learn more about Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I feel an attachment beyond what I've just mentioned for Dr. John G. Egnatoff because, as was mentioned earlier, he was instrumental in education in Saskatoon and certainly in the area that I represent. There is no greater honour, Mr. Speaker, then for a person who lives their life for education and who devotes their life to education than to have a school named after them and that's indeed the case in the heart of the Saskatoon Silver Springs constituency. And I think that the Speaker is familiar with that school, as most members are, because it's a school that has received recognition across this province and across the country for the work that they have done.

I think it's a fitting tribute to somebody like Dr. John G. Egnatoff whose life goal was to pursue excellence. He wanted excellence in whatever he did and that's the philosophy that the school taking his name. So in 1988, Mr. Speaker, the Saskatoon board of education chose to name their new school in Erindale area of Saskatoon, Dr. John G. Egnatoff School, again for his contribution that he has made to education and to life in Saskatchewan.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have another story that I want to share with other members, and it involves the Minister of Learning and myself. Back in the spring we had the opportunity to attend the ceremony, the sod-turning for the new centennial collegiate. And I know that the member for Saskatoon Nutana was there. The member for Saskatoon Eastview was there as well. And it was indeed an honour to see Dr. John G. Egnatoff there.

After the ceremonies had finished and the Minister of Learning and I were chatting about Saskatoon Silver Springs constituency and how beautiful the constituency is, Dr. Egnatoff came up to us. And I think his sense of humour was mentioned here earlier in the Chamber. But I think he saw some humour in the Minister of Learning and myself actually getting along at the time and talking about things in the area, about education, and about the Silver Springs constituency and actually agreeing on most things.

But he asked if he could have his picture taken with us. Mr. Speaker, what a humbling experience for the Minister of Learning and myself. So indeed there was a cameraman present, a person that would take the picture. And I do have the picture at this time with the Minister of Learning and Dr. Egnatoff and myself. And indeed both the Minister of Learning and I were indeed humbled by that opportunity.

In fact we spoke yesterday, and the Minister of Learning said he would like to get a copy of that picture. I'm somewhat hesitant to give him a copy because I know with digital technology he will probably edit me out of the copy that I give him. I say that in jest, Mr. Speaker, because I think that's a picture that we will indeed honour and treasure.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. John G. Egnatoff was a proud Saskatonian, a proud Saskatchewanian, and a proud Canadian. It is indeed an honour and a humbling experience to pay tribute to Dr. John G. Egnatoff today in this Chamber. And I thank you for that opportunity.

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

**Mr. Heppner:** — I thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's really rather amazing this morning to listen to all the people who are giving tributes at this particular time, and not just to people where they've received a little notice about what they were about or read a little article in a newspaper, but an individual that so many people have met over the years. And I consider myself fortunate to have also met Dr. Egnatoff. And it was during that brief time when . . . The term normal school has been used a number of times. I have yet to figure out why in the world it was called a normal school. These were supposed to prepare teachers to, by and large to teach with a grade 12 and then one winter attending there at, as I said, normal school.

Near the end of the time of that school, it was put together with the education department at the university and became known as Avenue A campus. I don't think the curriculum changed a whole lot during that time, but it had an official link to the main campus of the university in Saskatoon.

Having met Mr. Egnatoff there, I remember, you know, coming into his class at the start, and when you've just come out of grade 12, you haven't lost a lot of your grade 12 attitudes. Like you look at the teacher that's coming up to the front and you analyze the situation and say, well there's going to be winners and losers here. How are we going to do this? Is this person going to be tough? Is he going to be fair? Can we pull some pranks and get away with it? All of those things go through your head.

Well with Dr. Egnatoff, you could try any one of those things once, and you knew exactly where the situation was at. The classroom was his classroom, and you best not be messing around in the classroom. You best not have forgotten to do your homework. You just best try to be an A student because if you weren't, Dr. Egnatoff could bring you back in line in front of the whole class, Mr. Speaker. He wouldn't take you outside and give you sort of that little bit of dignity of setting some directions for you out in the hallway. It was done right in front of all the other classmates. And that's not a bad idea, Mr. Speaker, because we probably learned very quickly the first time to go ahead and stand in line.

[11:45]

His military career was mentioned, and that also showed up in his classrooms, Mr. Speaker. He expected almost that regimental attitude that you would see in the military in his classroom. We didn't have to stand at attention but we sure had to pay attention and he maintained that very well. I know I came late to class once and the operative word there is once. Didn't do that again.

Over the years, and that's been a long time ago, Mr. Speaker, that I attended Avenue A Campus — must have been sometime back in the early '60s. And the amazing thing, and I'm not very good with remembering names, but then when I got back into the Saskatoon area and in many different situations would see Dr. Egnatoff, he would always remember my name. And it wasn't because I was necessarily a very good student — I don't think I particularly was — but it was part of the way he was. If you had been in his classroom it was almost a sure thing that your name was permanently etched in his mind.

I remember very well attending a bit of a convention in Saskatoon. I believe it was about a year and a half ago and he sat at a table just across from me — still remembered my name.

It's been a privilege for me, Mr. Speaker, to have known Dr. Egnatoff and it's been a special privilege for me to have been a student of his. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I too am very fortunate to have known Dr. Egnatoff

through many years, through many different parts of my life. I've had the opportunity to recall the very first time that I met Dr. Egnatoff was as a student at the University of Saskatchewan when Dr. Egnatoff was the head of the department of educational administration at the University of Saskatchewan.

And there were times when we would get together as students, as education students at the new campus, at that time opened I believe in 1970. And that was my first opportunity to take education classes that were co-ordinated by Dr. Egnatoff. And as my colleagues have already said, you knew where Dr. Egnatoff stood on matters of writing term papers, or on delivering your projects on time.

Mr. Speaker, I also had the opportunity as a teacher when I was involved in the teaching profession throughout the '70s to be involved with Dr. Egnatoff as well, as he was involved with the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, and that clearly showed that he was a leader in all facets of life in education. As indicated in the information that we have before us, Dr. Egnatoff devoted his life to education.

And the third opportunity that I had to meet Dr. Egnatoff was then as a school trustee. When I myself was elected as a school trustee, Dr. Egnatoff already was a school trustee as well in Saskatoon. And no question, Mr. Speaker, there was a person who would be at every convention. And when a resolution was being debated, and if he had disagreed with your point of view on a particular resolution, he was there to say so. And he was there to debate it in a very articulate fashion.

And, you know, I just developed a tremendous sense of admiration for that individual, because he was representing a city, the largest city in the province, and yet he had an understanding for what rural school trustees were facing. I also admired him for the fact, Mr. Speaker, that he was president or had been president of the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association and many years later I followed as president of that same organization.

So it was always great to have Dr. Egnatoff attend the conventions. I know that he and his wife would attend many conventions and it was always a tremendous honour to be able to talk with him at convention time and to share past, you know, reminisces about what had happened over the previous year.

Mr. Speaker, I also had the opportunity to know Dr. Egnatoff from a political point of view. As indicated, Dr. Egnatoff represented a constituency on behalf of the Liberal Party in his role here in the Assembly and I did as well. And that was my first opportunity to talk to Dr. Egnatoff about how politics would affect you as an individual, how your family would be affected. Dr. Egnatoff was always willing to share that with people who were just beginning their careers in politics as well.

So, Mr. Speaker, you can clearly see that Dr. Egnatoff affected many people and affected people in so many different walks of life, whether they were as a university student or as a teacher or as a school trustee or as a politician. And, Mr. Speaker, I want to express to the family of Dr. Egnatoff, his wife and all family, my deepest sympathy in the passing of Dr. John Egnatoff.

**The Speaker:** — Members, I just want to add a couple of

words of my own. I did get to know Dr. John Egnatoff professionally and must say that he was very much admired and had a great, great influence on many, many people in Saskatchewan, including myself.

I also got to know a little bit about Dr. John Egnatoff through a friend of my wife's and myself, George Glenn, who was a nephew to Dr. John Egnatoff. And George Glenn would always not refer to him as doctor, but as Uncle John. And I just want to, for my friend, say that I think he would like to bid a fond farewell to his Uncle John through the legislature.

The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Premier, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition:

That this Assembly record sorrow and regret at the passing of former member of this Assembly, John Egnatoff.

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:** — Motion is carried. I recognize the member for Saskatoon Massey Place.

**Hon. Mr. Cline:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With leave I would ask . . . I would ask leave I should say to introduce a guest.

**The Speaker:** — The member for Saskatoon Massey Place has requested leave for introductions. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Massey Place.

**Hon. Mr. Cline:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly, a young man in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, who's Mr. Nick Stulberg of Regina. And he is a political science student at the University of Regina. He just finished an environmental science degree at the University of Lethbridge. He's also been in the youth parliament and he's a friend of one of our pages, Arielle Zerr. And I'd like all members of the Assembly to join me in welcoming Nick here today.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Premier.

#### CONDOLENCES

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again at the close of my remarks I will make the formal motion of condolence to note the passing of Gladys Grace Mae Strum.

But before I do that, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that I and other members in this House will want to take a few moments to celebrate a life that was so, so very well lived.

Gladys Strum was a true pioneer. Born in the province of Manitoba in 1906 she moved to Saskatchewan in her youth to teach school in our province. And in many ways she grew up with the province that this year celebrates its 100th birthday.

Among her many accomplishments, Mr. Speaker, Gladys Strum was the first woman president of a Canadian political party, the CCF [Co-operative Commonwealth Federation]. She was the first woman member of the CCF elected to the House of Commons and, Mr. Speaker, Gladys Strum was also Saskatoon's first woman representative elected to this Assembly, and Gladys was also Canada's only woman Member of Parliament all the way from 1945 to 1949.

Known always as a strong advocate for women and farmers, in her tenure as a Member of Parliament Gladys Strum also gained a reputation for her extraordinary work ethic, combining university courses with committee meetings, constituency work, and other parliamentary duties.

Having grown up on the farm and having left home at 16 to teach and having been a farm wife and mother, Gladys was no stranger to hard work. And work itself was the subject of her most famous and, Mr. Speaker, her most oft-repeated quote. And many in this House remember this quote, I think, particularly the women who occupy seats in this Chamber today. It was Gladys Strum who said, quote:

I submit to the House, that no one has ever objected to women working. The only thing they have ever objected to, is paying women for working.

Gladys's fearlessness in a forum that was so much then dominated by the male gender was also very, very legendary. Citing the indignity brought upon the House, she asked the Speaker to abolish the archaic custom of requiring women to wear hats or scarves in the gallery of the House of Commons. When the Speaker agreed, women in the gallery immediately removed their hats to celebrate their new freedom and pay tribute to their champion on the floor of the House of Commons. Hats off to Gladys Strum.

But, Mr. Speaker, the accomplishment of which Gladys Strum was most proud by far was being part of that government that established medicare in the province of Saskatchewan. Belief in a universal, public health care system was both a political and a personal conviction for Gladys Strum. During the medicare debate of 1962, Gladys wrote moving and persuasive letters to Saskatchewan newspapers based upon her own life experiences. To quote an excerpt from one of those letters, quote:

I learned the hard way what it meant to have a baby, a mortgage and a sick husband with no provision for paying either grocery or doctor bills. This could not happen to you now, but it did happen to me, and it is the reason that I am in politics.

Mr. Speaker, Gladys Strum was a lifelong student. At age 42, with two university degrees yet to come but already at an age



when most of us has sort of left our academic pursuits behind, Gladys Strum took it upon herself to learn a second language. She'd reached the conclusion that mutual understanding was the only solution to heal the differences between English- and French-speaking Canadians. And having already more than mastered the English language, she undertook a course of study of the French language so that she could visit and talk with Quebecers.

At age 56, Mr. Speaker, in that very tumultuous year of 1962, while she was serving in this legislature, she at the age of 56 graduated with degrees both in arts and education from the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. This, Mr. Speaker, demonstrates a great deal about Gladys Strum. The thirst for knowledge, such an indelible feature of her character, was only truly fulfilled when the knowledge gained could be used to serve others.

Mr. Speaker, Gladys Strum was one of those Prairie visionaries — individuals of humble origins who were shaped by Saskatchewan and the times in which they lived, who in return did so much to shape and form the province, the country, in the times in which we live.

So, Mr. Speaker, by leave of the Assembly I will move the formal motion:

That this Assembly records with sorry and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly and expresses its grateful appreciation of the contribution she made to her community, her constituency, and to the province.

**Gladys Strum**, who passed away on August 15, 2005, was a member of this Legislative Assembly from 1960 until 1964 representing the constituency of Saskatoon City for the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation.

Gladys Strum was born on February 4, 1906 in Gladstone, Manitoba. Mrs. Strum was educated at local primary and secondary schools before attending the Moosomin and Regina normal schools. She later pursued her studies at the University of Saskatchewan and graduated with degrees in arts and education. She married Warner Strum on November 16, 1926. Their daughter, Carol, was born in 1930.

Mrs. Strum trained as a teacher and taught in schools intermittently in Saskatchewan and British Columbia throughout her life. Her concern for the well-being of her neighbours was rooted in her own experiences growing up on the family farm, and later the challenges posed by the Depression and the illness of her husband.

Together with her husband, Mrs. Strum was a pioneering member of the CCF and sought elected office on several occasions. She was the first woman to head a major political party in Canada when she assumed the presidency of the CCF in Saskatchewan in 1944. The following year she was the sole female member elected to the House of Commons in 1945.

Mrs. Strum was a dedicated supporter of the provincial

CCF and was actively involved in many areas including serving as a member of this Assembly.

In recording its own deep sense of loss and bereavement, this Assembly expresses its most sincere sympathy with members of the bereaved family.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

[12:00]

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Premier, the member for Riversdale, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Swift Current:

That this Assembly records with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly, Gladys Strum.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? The Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again it's a pleasure to be able to second the motion of condolence made by the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, had I met Gladys Strum, I'm quite certain we would have been able to have a very lively discussion about politics, and maybe economics and maybe other issues as well, Mr. Speaker. And frankly, that only adds to the respect that I would have for her many accomplishments as we have heard them highlighted by the Premier. And those accomplishments now of course are a matter of the historical record of our province and our nation.

I'm sure she was one of the few — maybe the only one — but certainly one of the few women who would have been students at the University of Saskatchewan in the 1920s. It must have taken a great deal of persistence and courage to complete her degrees.

And, Mr. Speaker, on this count I know a little bit . . . I have some personal experience actually. You see, my wife was one of the only women students in the College of Engineering. She graduated with her degree in civil engineering from the University of Saskatchewan, and I think you could count probably on one hand how many other women that would have been in that college trying to graduate with a degree in engineering in whichever of the disciplines that they had chosen.

People like Gladys Strum blazed the trail that, you know, still needs to be blazed today, frankly — but really did blaze a trail in terms of university education and women in leadership roles at university and of course just being able to benefit from university education back into the 1920s. And that legacy lasts even today.

I have a great respect for the many women like Gladys Strum, like Gladys herself who didn't just survive the Depression on a farm in Saskatchewan but allowed it to strengthen her. It allowed her to go on and actually contribute, because of that experience, to the province, and in her case to a political party

that she helped to found, Mr. Speaker.

There are women like Gladys in all of our families, women that we can go back in our family histories and acknowledge to be the heroes and the women of courage that they were. And certainly with respect to Gladys Strum, that's the case.

The Depression experience left marks and altered character in a way that crosses all political lines. Those who lived through it, like Gladys, knew the value of thrift and stewardship and co-operation. She knew about hard work. She knew about the need to stand side by side with your neighbours and make sure you did what you could to help out, that you did for others what you wanted them to be in a position to do for you. That's the kind of individual she was. And her life of service obviously went on to this Legislative Assembly.

So it is with a great deal of respect for her memory and for her family that I rise on behalf of the official opposition to second this motion of condolence by the Premier. And we extend our thoughts and sympathies and best wishes to the family and the friends of Gladys Strum who remember her still. Clearly her life is a matter and is very much a part of the history of the province that she loved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Trew:** — Mr. Speaker, thank you. It is my honour today to stand and speak on the life of Gladys Strum. What an amazing person she was — not just for living 99 years; in fact that's one of the least of her accomplishments although that in itself is worthy of significant recognition.

Gladys Strum, like so many people of her time, was shaped by forces around her, was shaped by the Depression, was shaped by a husband with TB [tuberculosis], a husband who spent nearly five years in a sanatorium leaving Gladys and some other family to run the family farm, to raise Warner's five children and Gladys and Warner's daughter — Gladys having married Warner after he was widowed. So there was . . . Warner had six children — that is the best way I can describe that.

But what a cross to bear in a time in the '30s when, as the story goes, after one 12-month period five people working on the farm, day in, day out, and after 12 months these five people had \$50 to show for a complete year's effort. And that's not \$50 each; that's \$50 for five people and running the households.

This is poverty that we just can't imagine today. But it was poverty at a different level because I'm sure that there were chickens and, you know, a cow and livestock to provide some food and some eggs and some milk. But along with that opportunity of course, Mr. Speaker, meant lots and lots of work.

It is amazing that Warner would, through this, encourage Mrs. Strum at every opportunity to get more involved politically, to reach out to the community. Like somehow the Strums didn't have enough challenges just keeping their own farm and household and family going. Like somehow that wasn't enough. That somehow these amazing people had to reach out to their neighbours, their friends, their community, their world. They wished for all what they would wish for themselves. And they

took on more than their share of the challenges of this world, Mr. Speaker, so that others could reap the benefits of their diligence.

I couldn't be prouder of the Strum family, of Gladys in particular, but of all of her family because I know that it took considerable support, particularly Warner, but also the children — six children that for much of their childhood mom would have been away, either in Regina, or in Ottawa for the period from '45 to '49, as the Premier has pointed out, where she was the only woman in the House of Commons.

Imagine. She was the fifth woman ever elected to the Canadian House of Commons. She was the only woman ever elected to the House of Commons under the CCF banner. Of course when the CCF became the NDP, the New Democratic Party, we've elected quite a number of women and we're very proud of all of them, but Gladys Strum was truly the pioneer there.

At the time she was in the House of Commons she was one of the very first voices to speak out and urge that we have a national crop insurance program — that was Gladys Strum. That was that era. Imagine in that postwar era, '45 to '49. We need a national crop insurance program — Gladys Strum.

Gladys Strum also . . . the Premier talked about the hat incident. I won't regale the House with that story. But she delivered in the House of Commons an impassioned advocacy for a national health care program, a national health care program — '45 to '49 was when Gladys sat in the House of Commons.

What an amazing leader she was. What a debt of gratitude all of us in Saskatchewan and all Canadians owe this remarkable Norwegian woman, this Scandinavian. I'm proud of our shared heritage in that regard.

Mr. Speaker, I've talked a bit about the deprivations of the time. And I just come back to them to point out that the deprivations of the '30s, the deprivations of the difficulties of raising a family and keeping everything together with no money only, only heightened Gladys Strum's sense of her thirst for some social justice, some dignity for all. And that's what she worked for indeed all her life.

I am very, very fond of the quote that the Premier made. And I say this on behalf of women, but I want to point out that the more things change, the more things stay the same because here we are in 2005, and we . . . Pay equity is no further back — not to put too fine a point on it — but no further on the back burner now than it was then. We've made huge advances, but we're not there yet.

Gladys Strum was one of the first voices for women and I submit for all people when she said, "I submit to the House, that no one has ever objected to women working. The only thing they . . . [object] to, is paying women for working." And that of course remains all too accurate to this day.

Also while she was in the House of Commons, freight rates were a major issue. And Gladys Strum of course would have been advocating for a fixed Crow benefit, the Crow freight rate. That has gone into the annals of history, but that was one of the issues that Gladys Strum dealt with from 1945 to '49. Health —

I want to stress this — a national health program was really Gladys Strum's driving cause, if I can describe it that way, in her time there.

The Premier pointed out that Gladys Strum was the first president, woman president, of a political party anywhere in Canada. And that was in 1944 when she took over from Tommy Douglas as president when Tommy became leader of the CCF and then became premier. Gladys Strum took over the presidency, was elected president of the CCF.

She also ran in the 1944 election. She lost by six votes to the former premier who went on to become the leader of the opposition. But by six votes we missed having Gladys Strum and my grandmother sit in this legislature in 1944 at the same time.

And I can't help but feel a little bit of sorrow that my grandmother did not have the direct company of Gladys Strum sitting on the government side of this very Chamber in 1944. And I can't help but reflect, not to put too fine a point on my own grandmother, but my grandmother sat on the Thompson medicare commission that made the final recommendations to Tommy Douglas and his cabinet that we should proceed with medicare.

Marjorie Strum . . . Gladys Strum, I'm sorry. A Freudian slip here. I'm sliding in Marjorie Cooper, who is also another wonderful and amazing woman. But Gladys Strum, Mr. Speaker, in the '40s had made a speech in the House of Commons about medicare.

In 1961 she was elected out of Saskatoon and was in this very Chamber. She had spoken in favour of the medicare legislation that my grandmother had recommended, amongst many, many other people. She had stood in this House, spoken for medicare, and stood in this House and voted the legislation that introduced medicare to Saskatchewan.

And as we know, certainly on . . . well as we know in Saskatchewan, medicare is Saskatchewan's gift to Canada. And Gladys Strum indeed played a very, very significant role in that, and I can't imagine her family being anything other than incredibly proud of her role in that very thing. Indeed Gladys had said that that vote was the highlight of her political career, when she was here voting for medicare.

[12:15]

Mr. Speaker, I've got to share this, I've gone on long enough in one regard. But when I approached the library for some information on Gladys Strum, I was pleasantly surprised when I asked them to put together some information so I'd have some background. And inside of 15 minutes I had an envelope, one of those eight-and-a-half by 16 or 18 — whatever they are — inch envelopes with about 3 inches thick information on Gladys Strum. And that I think is a real tribute to Gladys Strum. It's a tribute to the people of Gladys's era, the leaders, the thoughtful and caring people that continue to honour us with their legacy. Mr. Speaker, I hope, I can only hope and pray that we honour them with our diligence and our continued work.

I join the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition in

expressing condolences to Carol Meiklejohn, the four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. I am proud to have been able to stand and take my place today as we honour Gladys Strum, teacher, politician, homemaker, woman extraordinaire. In many ways I wish she had another century to contribute, and indeed she will be contributing over the next century through her legacy.

My condolences to the family and my expressions of gratitude for a life very, very well written. It's been my honour to join in this condolence motion.

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the Premier, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition:

That this Assembly record with sorrow and regret the passing of a former member of this Assembly, Gladys Strum.

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:** — Motion is carried. The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to introduce a motion of transmittal.

**The Speaker:** — Requested to introduce a motion of transmittal. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The member may proceed.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. By leave of the Assembly then, I would move, seconded by the member from Saskatoon Nutana:

That the resolutions just passed, together with a transcript of oral tributes to the memory of the deceased be communicated to the bereaved families on behalf of this Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Government House Leader, the member for the Battlefords, seconded by the Deputy Government House Leader, the member for Saskatoon Nutana:

That the resolution that has just passed together with a transcript of oral tributes to the memory of the deceased be communicated to the bereaved families on behalf of the Assembly by Mr. Speaker.

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:** — Motion is carried. The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

## MOTIONS

### House Adjournment

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. By leave of the Assembly I would like to make a few remarks prior to the adjournment motion.

**The Speaker:** — Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and by leave of the Assembly and with your indulgence I would like to in a few moments move a motion with respect to the adjournment.

Prior to doing so as I indicated, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to express my appreciation to a number of the officers of the House and to members of the House. This, of course, has been my first session as the House Leader on the government side and I've had a fairly steep learning curve. And I did want to express my appreciation to those who have assisted me in doing my job and through me, Mr. Speaker, the work of the legislature itself.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you and the folks in your office for your support and your efforts during this session. I would like to thank the Clerk, the Clerks at the Table for all of the support that they have provided to me and to others who are looking to the smooth performance of the work of this Assembly. To the Clerk and the Clerks at the Table, thank you very much for all that you have done.

To the member from Melfort, the Opposition House Leader, and his staff I appreciate the co-operation and the efforts that have been made on that side to assist again in the smooth completion of the work here and to ensure that the needs and the priorities of the people of Saskatchewan as expressed by the members of the opposition and the members of the government are dealt with. And so my thank you to the member from Melfort and his staff.

Also to my immediate staff and to the staff in the government House business office, the people who support me in ensuring that the work that needs to be done both on the floor and in the discussions and negotiations that go on to ensure that the work on the floor moves quickly. Mr. Speaker, my thanks and appreciation to the House business staff, to the staff in my office, and of course to the committee of government members

who support me in my work here.

I also want to express thanks to the Premier whose Throne Speech set the tone for the session. To the Minister of Finance whose mid-year financial report confirms his commitment to the strength of the Saskatchewan economy. To my colleagues on this side of the House who have brought forward an agenda that made for lively debate but to improve the circumstances and quality of life for the people of Saskatchewan.

And on a more personal note, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my mother who I know is watching at this very moment. I want to thank my mother for watching regularly the proceedings of the House and for providing me with good advice from time to time on how to make things proceed and to ensure that I'm doing the best job that I can here.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, to my spouse, Cheryl, who patiently tolerates my absences from home and who constantly encourages me to do the good work necessary on behalf of all of the people of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, thank you to all.

By leave of the Assembly then, Mr. Speaker, I would like to move, seconded by the member from Melfort:

That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day today, it shall stand adjourned to the date and to the time set by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government and that Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice, if possible, of such date and time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Government House Leader, the member for The Battlefords seconded by the Opposition House Leader, the member for Melfort:

That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day today, it shall stand adjourned to the date and to the time set by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government and that Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice, if possible, of such date and time.

The Chair recognizes the member from Melfort, the Opposition House Leader.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to second the Government House Leader's motion about the adjournment for this fall session.

Mr. Speaker, in mentioning the fact that this is the beginning of a new way of organizing ourselves as legislators in this province, with a permanent fall session followed by a spring session. And I think that, as we find our way through this process of change in our Assembly, it is very important that there is a great deal of co-operation by the leadership of this House.

And, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank you and your staff for the leadership you've provided in this transition, the Clerks at the Table, and the member of North Battleford, the Government House Leader and his staff for being willing to work together to allow this process to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I think it's important as well to thank all members

of this Assembly for their patience as we work our way through this new process. On both sides of the House, I've had members come to me with constructive suggestions as to how this process may indeed be improved upon, and expressing appreciation for the fact that it seems to be a very general consensus that the task and the process we're on is indeed a step in the right direction for improved accountability for the legislature of Saskatchewan. And so I'm very, very pleased to be a part of that.

Mr. Speaker, as members return home later today, they are able to return home and join with their family and friends in preparation for a very special season. It's a season that makes us aware that it's important to spend time with our families. It's important to make time for our spouses and our children and, I'm proud to say, grandchildren.

And it's a time to reflect on what the true meaning of Christmas is in our province and in our world. You know, it always never ceases to amaze me that when you think and reflect on the spirit of Christmas, you have to recognize that this message of love and peace was brought to us by a child. And I think, Mr. Speaker, that that is an important symbolic relationship to remember.

And so, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the official opposition, the Leader of the Official Opposition, and all of my colleagues, I would like to wish all members a very happy and joyous and blessed Christmas, and the very best in the New Year. And we all look forward to continuing this session in the spring and continuing on the work of the people of Saskatchewan. Merry Christmas.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for The Battlefords and seconded by the member for Melfort:

That when this Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day today, it shall stand adjourned to the date and to the time set by Mr. Speaker upon the request of the government, and that Mr. Speaker shall give each member seven clear days notice, if possible, such date and time.

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:** — Motion is carried. The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Mr. Speaker, taking a look at the clock, and recognizing the schedule of Her Honour, I would move:

That the House do now recess until 1 o'clock, at which time we will welcome Her Honour to the Chamber.

**The Speaker:** — Does the member have leave to make the

motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The member has leave. The member has made a motion that, as the Government House Leader:

That this House do now recess until such time that we are ready to resume for Royal Assent.

Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried. This House stands recessed until call of the bell which will be five minutes prior to resumption of debate.

[The Assembly recessed for a period of time.]

**The Speaker:** — I wish to advise the Assembly that Her Honour is here for Royal Assent.

### ROYAL ASSENT

[At 13:08 Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, took her seat upon the throne, and gave Royal Assent to the following Bills.]

**Her Honour:** — Pray be seated.

**The Speaker:** — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly at its present session has passed several Bills which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour and which Bills I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**Her Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name . . . Oops, I guess you're going to have to read those Bills first. Everyone just looked like they were ready to go home.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Clerk:** — The Bills are as follows:

- Bill No. 203 - The Prostate Cancer Awareness Month Act
- Bill No. 11 - The Youth Justice Administration Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 1 - The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 3 - The Summary Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 16 - The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 17 - The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005 (No. 2)
- Bill No. 27 - The Youth Drug Detoxification and Stabilization Act
- Bill No. 13 - The Archives Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 14 - The Provincial Emblems and Honours Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 8 - The Western Development Museum Amendment Act, 2005
- Bill No. 20 - The Collective Bargaining Agreement Expiry Date Exception Act

- Bill No. 25 - The Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2005  
Bill No. 23 - The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2005 (No. 2)  
Bill No. 2 - The Film Employment Tax Credit Amendment Act, 2005  
Bill No. 7 - The Farm Financial Stability Amendment Act, 2005 (No. 2)  
Bill No. 9 - The University of Regina Amendment Act, 2005  
Bill No. 10 - The University of Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2005

**Her Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I assent to these Bills.

**The Speaker:** — May it please your Honour, this Legislative Assembly has voted additional supplies required to enable the government to defray the expenses of the public service.

In the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour:

Bill No. 29 - The Appropriation Act, 2005 (No. 3)

to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**Her Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I thank the Legislative Assembly, accept their benevolence, and assent to this Bill.

[Her Honour retired from the Chamber at 13:12.]

**The Speaker:** — Please be seated. The Chair recognizes the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would move that the House do now adjourn.

**The Speaker:** — Before I put the motion, I would just like to take a moment to thank my office staff, the Clerks, and all of the support staff in the Legislative Assembly Office for their dedication.

I would like to thank all of the members for the service they continue to provide to the people of Saskatchewan. And I particularly want to wish the member from Rosthern-Shellbrook a speedy and full healing from his accident. And I wish to wish all members and their families a joyous Christmas holiday season.

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 the call of the Chair.

[The Assembly adjourned at 13:14.]

**CORRIGENDUM**

On page 512 of *Hansard* No. 17A Thursday, December 1, 2005, the sentence in the left column, last paragraph, reading:

. . . and the minister says it is a phoney, made-up issue.

should read:

. . . and the minister says it is a phoney, made-up issue. Mr. Speaker, to the minister: when did he contact Cameco, and what action is he going to take in order to get this licence extended?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

We apologize for this error.

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# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN CABINET MINISTERS

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**Hon. Pat Atkinson**  
Minister of Crown Management Board  
Minister Responsible for Public Service  
Commission  
Minister Responsible for Immigration

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

**Hon. Buckley Belanger**  
Minister of Northern Affairs

**Hon. Eric Cline**  
Minister of Industry and Resources  
Minister Responsible for Investment  
Saskatchewan Inc.

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

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Minister of Environment  
Minister Responsible for the Office of  
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**Hon. Deb Higgins**  
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