



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

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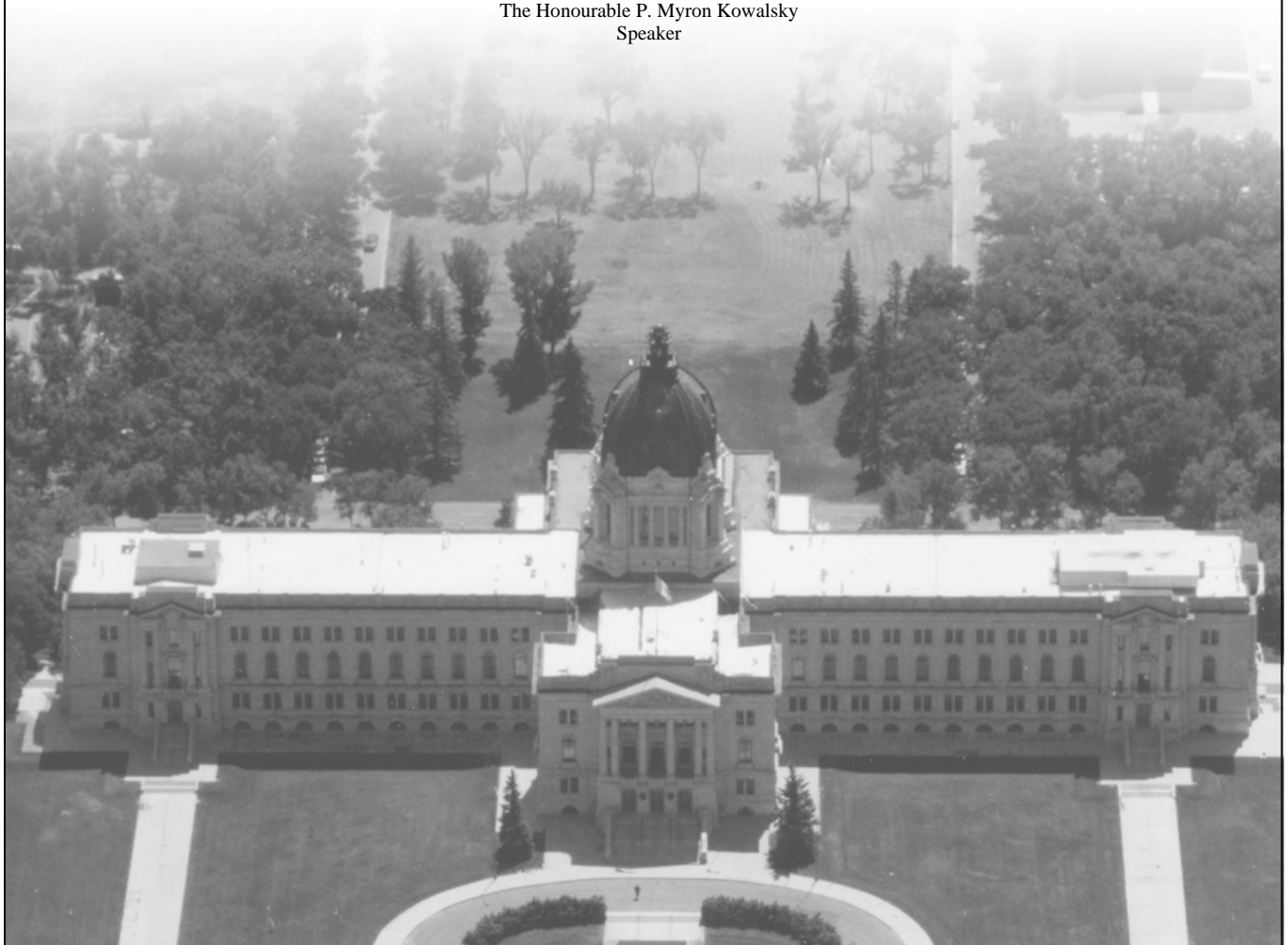
**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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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

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Addley, Hon. Graham	NDP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Allchurch, Denis	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Atkinson, Hon. Pat	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Beatty, Hon. Joan	NDP	Cumberland
Belanger, Hon. Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornrud, 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, Joanne	NDP	Regina Rosemont
D'Autremont, Dan	SP	Cannington
Dearborn, Jason	SP	Kindersley
Draude, June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, Hon. David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Gantfoer, Rod	SP	Melfort
Hagel, Hon. 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, Nancy	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, Hon. 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, Peter	NDP	Saskatoon Greystone
Quennell, Hon. Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Serby, Hon. Clay	NDP	Yorkton
Sonntag, Hon. Maynard	NDP	Meadow Lake
Stewart, Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Taylor, Hon. Len	NDP	The Battlefords
Thomson, Hon. Andrew	NDP	Regina South
Toth, Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Hon. Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Wakefield, Milton	SP	Lloydminster
Wall, Brad	SP	Swift Current
Wartman, Hon. Mark	NDP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Yates, Kevin	NDP	Regina Dewdney

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Toth:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege this afternoon to present a petition on behalf of a group of concerned people from the Broadview area regarding access to dialysis services. And I read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to implement a strategy that will see a dialysis unit placed in Broadview Union Hospital.

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

I so present.

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

**Mr. Elhard:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege today to present a petition on behalf of individuals from the Cypress Hills constituency very disappointed with the announced closure of the SaskPower office in Shaunavon. 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 keep the SaskPower office in Shaunavon open to provide full service to the community and surrounding areas.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, these three pages of petitions are signed by individuals from the communities of Shaunavon, Climax, and Eastend. I so present.

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

**Mr. McMorris:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too have a petition to present on behalf of residents of the province and especially the people around the Broadview area. 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 implement a strategy that will see a dialysis unit placed in the Broadview Union Hospital.

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by the good people in the

Coronach, Broadview, and the Cowessess area. I so present.

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased to rise today on behalf of people who are really concerned about the lack of cell coverage in the Porcupine-Weekes area. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause this government to ensure SaskTel provides access for cell phone coverage in the Porcupine Plains-Weekes area.

The people who have signed this petition are from Regina, Tisdale, Hudson Bay, Carragana, and Porcupine Plain. I so present on their behalf.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Hermanson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Judging from the coffee stains on this petition I would assume it was in a coffee shop, but it's signed by people who want to maintain full service of the SaskPower office in Rosetown. Mr. Speaker, the prayer of the petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to keep the SaskPower office in Rosetown open to provide full service to the community and surrounding areas.

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

Mr. Speaker, the signatures — and there are a number of them on this petition — come from the communities of D'Arcy, Rosetown, Biggar, Herschel, Mildred, and Saskatoon. And I am pleased to present this petition on their behalf.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I again rise today with people who are concerned about the condition of Highway No. 5 and the safety of driving. 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 the signatures, Mr. Speaker, are from Saskatoon, St-Denis, and Quill Lake. I so present.

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

**Ms. Eagles:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of constituents of mine who are very concerned about the condition of Highway No. 18. And the prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to invest the needed money to repair and maintain Highway 18 so it can return to being a safe and economical route for Saskatchewan families and business.

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

And, Mr. Speaker, this is signed by the good folks of Lake Alma. I so present. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present another petition from citizens who are opposed to possible reductions of health care services in Biggar. The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Biggar Hospital, long-term care home, and ambulance services maintain at the very least their current level of services.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by the good citizens of Springwater, Biggar and district. I so present.

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

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present another petition on behalf of the 600 children under six years old and their parents in the Saskatoon Silver Springs constituency regarding a much-needed elementary school in the Arbor Creek and Willowgrove area of Saskatoon. The prayer of 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 implement an allocation of financial resources in this year's budget to build an elementary school in the Arbor Creek-Willow Grove area of Saskatoon.

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

Today the petitioners come from the constituency of Saskatoon Silver Springs, Gillam Crescent, Sears Cove, Peters Cove, and Perehudoff Crescent. I so present, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker,

today I rise with a petition from citizens who are extremely concerned about the possible closures of schools in the rural area. 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 actions to ensure that the Limerick School remains open.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is signed in total by the good citizens of Limerick. I so present.

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Rosthern-Shellbrook.

**Mr. Allchurch:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in the Assembly today to bring forth a petition. And the petition reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to resurface and properly maintain Highway No. 3 from Fairholme to Turtleford and the Livelong access road.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the signatures of this petition are from Livelong, Glaslyn, and Shellbrook. I so present.

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

**Mr. Kirsch:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to read a petition from the citizens of Saskatchewan that are concerned with cellular coverage in rural areas, which is unreliable and/or in a lot of cases non-existent. And the prayer read as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to provide reliable cellular telephone service in regions encompassing the constituency of Batoche.

And as duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And, Mr. Speaker, this is signed by the good people of Jansen, Humboldt, St. Benedict, and of course, Middle Lake. I so present.

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

**Mr. Brkich:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition calling the Government of Saskatchewan to maintain the Department of Highways section shop in Watrous:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Department of Highways section shop in Watrous remain open so as to ensure the safety of all motorists, Saskatchewan Highways

employees who would be affected by such possible closure.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

This particular petition is signed by the good citizens from the town of Watrous and also the city of P.A. [Prince Albert]. I so present. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to rise in the House today to present a petition regarding the government's failure to fund the cancer drug Avastin. I will read the prayer for relief:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to fully fund the cancer drug Avastin.

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens from Saskatoon. I so present on their behalf. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise in the Assembly today and present a petition calling on the government to fund the cancer drug Avastin. And I'll read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to fully fund the cancer drug Avastin.

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by the good people of Bengough. And I so present.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair for the Standing Committee on House Services is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on House Services

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on House Services to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its ninth report. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the member from Moose Jaw North:

That the ninth report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for Melfort, seconded by the member for Moose Jaw North:

That the ninth report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The motion is carried. The Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on Human Services

**Ms. Junor:** — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 33, The Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology Act without amendment.

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

[13:45]

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

**The Speaker:** — The Minister of Advanced Education and Employment has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole of this Bill. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

#### THIRD READINGS

##### Bill No. 33 — The Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology Amendment Act, 2006

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — 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 Advanced Education and Employment that Bill No. 33 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

##### Standing Committee on Human Services

**Ms. Junor:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing

Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 7, the Public Health Amendment Act, 2006 without amendment.

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

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — Sorry, Mr. Speaker, I was sleeping here; I was reviewing some notes for later in the day.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 7 be considered in Committee of the Whole?

**Hon. Mr. Taylor:** — With leave now, Mr. Speaker. We request that this Bill be read now, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I've been given tremendous advice on this side of the House, here. Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration for Committee of the Whole for this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole for Bill No. 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 of Health.

### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 7 — The Public Health Amendment Act, 2006

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 7 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** —The Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure is recognized.

#### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure

**Mr. Harper:** — Mr. Speaker, I'd like to table the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure. Mr. Speaker, I would like to move, seconded by the member from Kelvington-Wadena:

That the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure be now

concluded in.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for Regina Northeast, seconded by the member for Kelvington-Wadena:

That the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure be now concluded in.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** —The Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure is hereby recognized.

#### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure

**Mr. Harper:** — Mr. Speaker, I have been instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 11, The International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill 11 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Justice.

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

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

### THIRD READINGS

#### Bill No. 11 — The International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act / Loi sur les garanties internationales portant sur des matériels d'équipement aéronautiques mobiles

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 11 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure

**Mr. Harper:** — Mr. Speaker, I've been instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 18, The Court Security Act without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 18 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Justice.

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

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

#### THIRD READINGS

##### Bill No. 18 — The Court Security Act

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

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 18 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

#### PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

**The Speaker:** — The Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure is recognized.

##### Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure

**Mr. Harper:** — Mr. Speaker, I have been instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 22, The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2006 with amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When shall Bill No. 22 be considered in Committee of the Whole? The Chair recognizes the Minister of Justice.

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

**The Speaker:** — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration to Committee of the Whole for Bill No. 22. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

The Chair recognizes the minister.

#### FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF AMENDMENTS

##### Bill No. 22 — The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2006

**Hon. Mr. Quennell:** — Mr. Speaker, I move that the amendment be now read a first and second time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the minister that these amendments be now read a first and second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — First and second reading of the amendments.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the Bill be read a third time?

The Chair recognizes the minister.

#### THIRD READINGS

##### Bill No. 22 — The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2006

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

**The Speaker:** — By leave of the Assembly, the minister has moved that Bill No. 22 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel:** — Third reading of this Bill.

## NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS

2000-2001?

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

**Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I shall on day no. 38 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission: can the minister report as to whether or not the settlement agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan and Murdoch Carriere announced on February 27 by the Minister of the Environment is subject to a confidentiality clause? If so, who asked for the clause, the Government of Saskatchewan or Mr. Carriere?

And to the same minister, Mr. Speaker:

To the Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission: can the minister provide a copy of the settlement agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan and Mr. Murdoch Carriere that was announced on February 27, 2007 by the Minister of the Environment?

Thank you.

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

**Mr. Brkich:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice I shall on day no. 38 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Regional Economic Co-operative Development: how many government employees were charged with harassment for the fiscal year 2000-2001?

I also have similar questions for 2002, '03, '04, '05, '06, and '07.

Also:

To the Minister of Regional Economic and Co-operative Development: how many government employee harassment cases resulted in convictions, disciplinary action, or firing in the fiscal year 2000-2001?

I also have similar questions for '02, '03, '04, '05, '06, and '07.

Also:

To the Minister of Regional Economic and Co-operative Development: of the harassment complaints filed 2000-2001 fiscal year, how many were verified?

Also similar questions for years up to 2007.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I shall on day no. 38 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: how many government employee harassment cases resulted in convictions, disciplinary action, or firings in the fiscal year

I also have similar questions for the following years.

And also I give notice that I shall on day no. 38 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: how many harassment-related complaints were filed in the fiscal year 2000-2001?

Also similar questions, and also up to the years 2007. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

## INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for Riversdale, the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my distinct honour to introduce to you and through you to all members of the House a large group of visiting scholars, Mr. Speaker, who are seated in the west gallery. These visiting scholars come to us from China, from India, and from the United States of America.

They are in the province as guests and invitees of our province's universities, Mr. Speaker. And while they're here, they're taking the opportunity to meet with a variety of government officials and government departments, Mr. Speaker, in a process which we hope will strengthen and deepen the relationships between our province and our guests' respective homelands.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to meeting these visiting scholars later this afternoon. And I would ask all members who are present in the Chamber today to welcome the visiting scholars from India, from China, and the United States of America.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Elhard:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, I would like to join with the Premier to welcome our international guests to the Assembly today. We're always grateful for the added wisdom that international scholars can bring to us. We think we have something to learn from the world and that the world has something to learn from us.

And so I'd welcome them here today. And we look forward to their visit today and in the future — another delegation of this sort — and we hope that your time here is spent very successfully. Thank you.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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



**Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:** — Merci, Monsieur le Président. C'est un honneur pour moi de vous présenter à vous et mes collègues une délégation ici présente pour souligner La Journée internationale de la francophonie.

Mr. Speaker, just to translate that: it's my pleasure to introduce to you and to my colleagues a delegation here today to commemorate the International Francophonie Day.

The weeks of March 9 to March 25 have officially been proclaimed Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie in Saskatchewan. March 20, International Francophonie Day, is the focal point for the two weeks of festivities celebrating the French language and culture, and I am honoured to observe this occasion today in our provincial legislature.

They're seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker. And if I could ask them to stand as I mention their names, our guests are here representing a variety of Fransaskois community organizations. First, Monsieur Paul Heppelle. He is the vice-president of the Assemblée communautaire fransaskoise. He is joined by a number of other members of that organization: Denis Desgagné, Ronald Labrecque, Hélène Bourget, Geneviève Lapierre, Isabelle Boucher, Nicole Rioux, Chantale Larose, Brinda Ramlochun, Majid Benjelloun, Radouane Zinoun, and Carl Aubin.

Also joining them is Francine Proulx-Kenzle, of the Institut français de l'Université de Regina, as well as Nathalie Faye and Lorraine Laliberté.

Joining us from the Division scolaire francophone is Sophie Charbonneau.

From the Conseil de la coopération de la Saskatchewan: Catheline d'Auteuil, Siriki Diabagaté, Sylvain Lejeune.

And from the Conseil culturel fransaskois, Stéphane Rémillard.

From the Société historique de la Saskatchewan, Frédéric Beaulieu.

From the Association canadienne-française de Regina, Christiane Soucy.

And from the community, Marie France Kenny.

And from the Service fransaskois de formation aux adultes et la corporation du Collège Mathieu, Michel Vézina.

And last but not least, Karen Pozniak of the Canadian Parents for French in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing these folks a very warm welcome. Thank you very much.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. D'Autremont:** — Merci, Monsieur le Président. C'est mon

plaisir de dire bienvenue à tous les fransaskois et fransaskoises qui sont ici aujourd'hui de voyez notre assemblée. Cette semaine — et des deux semaines — sont pour la francophonie et je veux dire bienvenue ici.

[Translation: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to say welcome to all the Fransaskois who are here today to see our Assembly. This week — and these two weeks — are for the Francophonie, and I would like to say welcome here.]

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Members of the Assembly, yesterday I had the pleasure of introducing Mr. Msantsi from South Africa. He is the Sergeant-at-Arms and head of safety and security for the East Cape provincial legislature. He is here today again, but today he is joined by Mr. Hasani Ngobeni who is the Sergeant-at-Arms from Limpopo province in South Africa. They are here to learn and study and compare security hardware and security policies and are special guests of our Sergeant-at-Arms, Patrick Shaw. Members please welcome Mr. Ngobeni and Mr. Msantsi back to this legislature.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[14:00]

## STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

### Weyburn Student Wins Regional Spelling Bee

**Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm delighted to rise in the Assembly today to share some good news from the Weyburn-Big Muddy constituency.

The spelling bee is becoming a proud Canadian tradition. Beginning in 2005 the CanWest CanSpell program has cultivated year-round interest in spelling with teachers, parents, students, and communities supporting them. The spelling bee encourages young people to take learning to a fun and exciting level and to develop skills that will last a lifetime. The program engages individuals from the local school level all the way to the national stage as regional finalists from across the country are brought to Ottawa to compete each year.

This past Saturday one of twenty CanWest CanSpell regional spelling bees was held here in Regina, and it is my pleasure to inform the House that the CanWest CanSpell Southern Saskatchewan regional finalist is Dakota Thiel, a 12-year-old student from St. Michael Junior High School in Weyburn. On Saturday, Dakota flawlessly spelled the word gingham to win a \$3,000 RESP [Registered Educational Savings Plan], an invitation to the CanWest CanSpell National Spelling Bee in Ottawa, and to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC [District of Columbia].

Dakota owes thanks to his parents, Tracey and Darwin, who have encouraged him and studied with him. Dakota's mother has described her son's achievements as a personal victory and a morale booster.

And, Mr. Speaker, I don't think that I have to spell it out to the Assembly that congratulations are in order to Dakota, his parents, and teachers. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **100th Anniversary of St. Paul's Hospital**

**Ms. Junor:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday St. Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon celebrated its 100th anniversary. Among those gathered to celebrate this auspicious occasion were the Minister of Health, the Minister for Healthy Living Services, and the Minister of Industry and Resources who announced approximately \$3 million funding for a new MRI [magnetic resonance imaging] for the hospital.

Another highlight of the date, Mr. Speaker, was a \$1 million donation from Les and Irene Dube to help kick start an \$8 million capital campaign for a new urology centre of health.

Mr. Speaker, when the Grey Nuns opened St. Paul's in 1907 it was a small 17-bed facility, but it was destined to have a profound effect on the city. For many years the school of nursing was associated with the hospital. I'm proud to say that I'm a graduate of the last class of hospital-trained nurses from St. Paul's.

Over the years the hospital has undergone numerous expansions and dealt with many, many of the city and province's health challenges. But one thing that has remained constant from 1907 to today is the dedication of everyone involved with St. Paul's Hospital to meeting the health needs of the community. Mr. Speaker, St. Paul's serves as an excellent example of quality health care provided by an organization in co-operation with the health region and the provincial government.

In this anniversary year we honour the hospital's founders. We honour the health professionals, employees, and volunteers who, every step of the way, make quality health care possible. And we honour the innovations that have distinguished St. Paul's Hospital from the very beginning and will continue to be a part of this outstanding health care facility in the future. I ask all members to join me in congratulating St. Paul's Hospital on their 100th anniversary. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **Colorectal Cancer Awareness**

**Mr. McMorris:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer is the second largest cancer killer in Canada after lung cancer. More than 600 people are diagnosed in Saskatchewan each year.

The NDP [New Democratic Party] government has refused to cover the cost of Avastin, the cutting edge cancer drug that is the standard of care for colorectal cancer, forcing patients in

this province to fork out hundreds of thousands of dollars to access this drug. Not only has the NDP failed to cover the drug Avastin, we have seen very little action on a colorectal cancer screening program. If caught early, colorectal cancer is 90 per cent preventable. According to the Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada a screening program would reduce mortalities from this disease by 30 per cent.

Last fall Ontario became the first province to introduce a comprehensive screening program. Since that time Manitoba and Alberta have also introduced the same program. It is a shame that this NDP government in the home of medicare is falling so far behind other provinces.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank two Saskatchewan men for their tireless effort to raise the awareness for colorectal cancer and to lobby the NDP government for funding of Avastin. Mr. Terry Rak of Saskatoon and the late Bob Loeppky from Swift Current — these men have stood up for hundreds of people in this province to bring awareness to this colorectal cancer situation in the province and the situation around Avastin. I would like to thank these gentlemen and their families for their effort.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **Outstanding Community Service Honoured in Prince Albert**

**Mr. Borgerson:** — Mr. Speaker, four extraordinary women were honoured at Prince Albert International Women's Day celebrations for outstanding contributions to their community.

Mr. Speaker, Julie Pitzel is an original committee member for Community Against Family Violence. She was on the committee for the first women's safe shelter and helped open the first employment and training centre in La Ronge. Julie's work with the Prince Albert Indian Métis Friendship Centre, Aboriginal Head Start, and Women of the Earth are all part of her exemplary work for Métis and First Nations people.

Tammy Burns is originally from James Smith Cree Nation. She was honoured for her work as youth representative for Women of the Earth. Youth of the Earth offer after school activities for local young people.

Rose Henry has been an active member of the community for many years. She's been a volunteer on several boards, actively encourages others to become involved in the community, and for the past 23 years has worked at the Prince Albert Indian and Métis Friendship Centre.

Bernice Waditaka is an elder of the Wahpeton Dakota Nation. As a nurse, Dakota language instructor, and an associate teacher at Prince Albert Indian Student Education Centre, Bernice has contributed to her community in many different ways. She is currently a board member on a Wahpeton organization assisting troubled families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating

these four women and in conveying our thanks for their outstanding service to their communities and to the province. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **Regina Wins National Recognition for Excellence**

**Mr. Morgan:** — Mr. Speaker, Saskatchewan people are known around the world for their friendliness and charming nature. Now one of our very own has been singled out for national recognition.

In today's *Globe and Mail* Wal-Mart Canada took out a full-page ad to announce the 12 finalists in its Shining Star program, a program that allows more than 70,000 associates to appreciate and recognize each other by nominating a peer who demonstrates respect for individuals, service to customers, and striving for excellence. Two hundred and eighty-nine stores across Canada nominate one employee from each of their stores.

Among this year's 12 finalists in the Shining Star program was Regina's very own Will Walters. Will Walters, who is fondly known by the name as Wal-Mart Willie, has worked at the Southland Mall location as a greeter for 12 years. He is well known in Regina and has consistently shown great enthusiasm for his customers. Staff at the store say he's never slowed down in all the years he's been with them.

The company has made a donation on Will's behalf to the charity of his choice. I would ask all members of this Assembly to join with me in congratulating Will Walters, Wal-Mart Willie, on this very special recognition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **National Social Work Week**

**Ms. Hamilton:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's National Social Work Week, a time to honour and celebrate the tremendous contribution social workers make every day here in Saskatchewan and across the country. Social work is a profession born of compassion, caring, and service.

Social workers address the barriers, inequalities, and injustices that exist in society. They respond to crisis and emergency situations, and they help individuals and families deal with the problems that can arise in everyday life. Mr. Speaker, the theme for the week is, Social Workers Make a Difference in Children's Lives. Social workers make a difference whether they're helping a troubled family, working with a young person in conflict with the law, or finding safe shelter for a child or youth who is unable to live at home.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community Resources is the

largest employer of social workers in the province. But social workers also work in private practice, schools, hospitals, correctional centres, and nursing homes. No matter where they work, social workers make a difference in people's lives.

I ask all members of the Assembly to join me in expressing thanks and appreciation to Saskatchewan's social workers for the countless ways in which they make a difference in the lives of children and their families.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### **Budget Tradition**

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as you know, it's a tradition that the Minister of Finance gets new shoes to deliver his budget. Now that the minister's budget is leaking all over the place, it seems to me that there's only one suitable kind of footwear, and that's why, Mr. Speaker, the Saskatchewan Party has bought the minister a brand new pair of rubber boots — NDP orange rubber boots.

**The Speaker:** — Order. I think the member has made his point. Would the member please yield the exhibits. Would you go and pick those up and take them out of here. The Chair recognizes the member for Saskatoon Silver Springs.

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Boots are very versatile. The minister can use them to wade through his budget leaks. He can use them to wade through the red ink that will spill off of his budget on Thursday. He can use them to wade through the potholes on most NDP highways, and he can use them to wade through the droppings that the NDP leave on the floor of the Assembly every day. So, Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to present these rubber boots to the minister in the rotunda after question period.

Now that I see the rest of the NDP MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] are looking quite jealous that the Minister of Finance is getting boots. Don't worry because very soon the people of Saskatchewan are going to be giving each and every one of you the boot.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The member is . . . I just remind the member once again that all remarks should come through the Chair.

### **ORAL QUESTIONS**

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

### **Premier's Knowledge of Allegations Regarding Murdoch Carriere**

**Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to have an opportunity to question the Premier on his hastily called press conference on Thursday afternoon. It appears, as I mentioned yesterday, that the Premier's conscience started to bother him just about after 5 o'clock. That's when, that's when, Mr.

Speaker, he realized that the answers he gave earlier in the day to questions posed by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition on the Carriere scandal were not close enough to reality even for his own conscience.

Despite repeated claims that the Premier and the cabinet did not know — prior to the press breaking the story — of the Carriere scandal, of the Carriere affair, Mr. Speaker, he apparently changed his mind on that point late on Thursday afternoon. He had a press conference to say no, that he did, was aware of it well before the story broke in the media.

The question to the Premier is this: why has he been telling Saskatchewan people that he only found out about the Carriere affair after it broke in the media when that clearly wasn't the truth?

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

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, when invited by the press to speak to a question on this issue, I responded on Thursday afternoon. I indicated to the press, Mr. Speaker, that in fact I had received a letter brought to my desk about March 25 of that year, I believe, that indicated that there was concern about events in the Department of the Environment concerning Mr. Carriere and a number of employees, that Mr. Gillies had been, had undertaken a study, Mr. Speaker. And I did what I believed at that time to be the appropriate thing. I directed those letter writers to the deputy of the Environment. Mr. Speaker, this is information I'm very glad to share with this House or with the public.

But we know, Mr. Speaker, what's going on in this House. Obviously the Leader of the Opposition does not want to talk about other important issues for Saskatchewan people like the number of new jobs in our province, Mr. Speaker, like the growing economy, nor does he want to talk about his federal cousins yesterday betraying a promise to the people of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[14:15]

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

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, I would say that one of the, if not the most important issue before this Assembly is the credibility of the Premier of the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. In a newspaper article dated April 3, 2003, they quoted the Premier who said, and I quote:

I may say we all read with interest The StarPhoenix coverage, but before that I and the ministers had no particular knowledge.

That's what the Premier has been saying since April 2003 of this affair. He answered similarly to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition on Thursday and then called a press conference, scrambled to call a hastily assembled press conference at 20 after 5 to admit that he wasn't telling the truth. What is the Premier . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . He admitted it, Mr.

Speaker. What is the Premier going to do about the fact that he has, since 2003, not been complete with the facts, with the truth on this case, Mr. Speaker?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again let me say to the Leader of the Opposition and members assembled, on Thursday last I was invited by the press to answer some questions. I'm very pleased to answer these questions, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, again I report that I received a letter on or about March 25, and responded to it, which indicated to me for the first time that there were some concerns in the Department of the Environment in the Prince Albert office involving Mr. Murdoch Carriere. On April 1 of that year, we saw the graphic detail that was released to the press about the Gillies statement, Mr. Speaker. Those are the facts and again, Mr. Speaker, I believe I acted appropriately at that time.

Now maybe the Leader of the Opposition would like to stand up in the House and explain how he, as leader of that political party, today is taking taxpayer dollars and running ads in the province of Saskatchewan which are at best, Mr. Speaker, misleading. How does that jibe with his commitment and his own code of ethics, Mr. Speaker? I'd like an answer to that.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Wall:** — From *The StarPhoenix*, April 3, 2003, this is a quote of the Premier of the province of Saskatchewan, the member that was just speaking:

I may say we all read with interest The StarPhoenix coverage, but before that I and the ministers had no particular knowledge.

Does he stand by that statement today? Was he telling the truth when he said that?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, I and every member of this cabinet — and I believe the large majority of Saskatchewan people — on April 1, when we read in *The StarPhoenix* the particular details of this circumstance, it caused us, Mr. Speaker, to take some very dramatic action. It caused the minister, knowing that information released to the press, to recommend to me that Mr. Murdoch Carriere's employment and presence in the province of Saskatchewan's public service should be terminated. We did, Mr. Speaker. We did it in the full knowledge, Mr. Speaker, that we were not following the process and that, as a result, there would likely be costs to the people of Saskatchewan. We made that choice. I made that choice, Mr. Speaker, and the result of the cost we've had to pay out today.

Again I ask, Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition would please defend at least the kind of advertisement that he's doing across this province — paid for by tax dollars — which is so misleading, Mr. Speaker. Does that stand the test of his own code of ethics?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, the ads are pretty clear. This government paid \$275,000 to someone, a senior manager of their government fired for harassment and convicted of assault, while the women got \$15,000. The ad goes on to question the fairness to women, the message it sends to women. You bet we stand by that advertisement. You bet we do, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Wall:** — The Premier admitted, Mr. Speaker, the Premier admitted that in the SPUDCO [Saskatchewan Potato Utility Development Company] scandal — do you remember the SPUDCO scandal? — he admitted that the government failed to be as forthcoming as it should be. Here's what he wrote February 17, 2003, within days of the memo going out thanking Murdoch Carriere for his valuable contributions. The Premier writes:

Questions of why decisions were made, the public portrayal of those decisions and political ... [responsibility] have not been clearly addressed.

Mr. Speaker, it's clear the Premier and his government learned nothing from SPUDCO. They only come forward with the truth when it looks like they're going to get caught, Mr. Speaker. Again, to the Premier on the Carriere scandal: what is his government hiding?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, this government is hiding nothing. The plain facts, Mr. Speaker, are well, well-known, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there was incident happened in the Department of the Environment. Issues were raised by staff members. Appropriate investigation was done, Mr. Speaker. One of the individuals corresponded with me about six days before we read all of this in *The StarPhoenix*. At that time, Mr. Speaker, when I and we became aware of the detail that was presented in *The StarPhoenix*, we took I believe the appropriate action. That appropriate action at that time, Mr. Speaker, resulted in the termination, the removal of Mr. Murdoch Carriere from the workplace, Mr. Speaker, in an inappropriate process, the result of which was Mr. Carriere's legal action.

It is not as the Sask Party ads want to portray, that somehow Mr. Carriere was rewarded for this harassment or abuse, Mr. Speaker. That's what they want to portray. And then what they try and portray, Mr. Speaker, what they try and portray in this ad that I happened to hear on Saturday, Mr. Speaker, they try and portray my comments totally out of context.

They take taxpayers' dollars. They inappropriately communicate with the public. What kind of a breach of their own code of ethics is it?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### **Government Response to Harassment Complaints Regarding Murdoch Carriere**

**Ms. Draude:** — One of Murdoch Carriere's victims was interviewed by CBC [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation] yesterday. The victim said she was, and I quote: "mistreated by the government." That's what she said. She was mistreated by this NDP government. The woman is obviously still very upset with Murdoch Carriere but she's just as upset with the NDP government.

That's where we are today, Mr. Speaker. The victims of Murdoch Carriere's harassment think that the NDP government is just as bad as the man who harassed them in the first place. People are phoning from all over the province about this issue and they think so too.

Mr. Speaker, when will the Minister of PSC [Public Service Commission] finally begin to clear the air and start answering the questions about Murdoch Carriere? When will the minister tell the House when the first complaint about Murdoch Carriere was brought to the attention of her NDP government?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I just want to make this observation because this really does speak to the credibility of the members opposite. They attributed quotes to Justice Laing that do not appear in a document that they tabled in this House. They stated a piece of evidence, a hard drive, was wiped clean. That's simply not the facts. They've repeatedly said that Mr. Carriere was awarded \$275,000 for harassment and that is clearly incorrect, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, they have referred time and time again to Mr. Carriere's transfer to Regina as a promotion, but we know clearly that he was suspended without pay for three months. He was demoted three levels and his salary was red circled, Mr. Speaker. That is clearly not a promotion. But these members opposite who try to be credible say that all the time. And yesterday, they tried to insinuate that the Minister of the Environment was a friend of Murdoch Carriere and that's simply incorrect.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, I wonder what the nine women

who were harassed by Murdoch Carriere think about this government's answers, about the way they're being treated right now.

I guess the NDP old boys' club just didn't think that women being harassed in the workplace was very important at all. The victim said, and I quote:

Justice will never be served. As long as the old boys' club exists in the workplace, women will always be second-class citizens.

Mr. Speaker, exactly how does that fit into the NDP's zero-tolerance policy in their workplace?

Mr. Speaker, to the same minister, when were the very first complaints about Murdoch Carriere brought forward? Who were the complaints made to? And most importantly, what was done to address the complaints?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Mr. Speaker, the former minister of the Public Service Commission indicated in this House on April 2, I believe, or April 1, that this became . . . The two ministers, the minister of the Environment and the former minister of the Public Service Commission, became aware of this situation in a very, not in a detailed briefing way on February 12, 2003.

And the minister, the minister of the Environment, former minister, indicated that Mr. Carriere had contacted him in December of '02 and he explained to Mr. Carriere that he could not get involved because it was a departmental matter and ministers don't insert themselves into the day-to-day operations of government departments.

But I do want to say this to the Sask Party who pretend to be the purveyors of equity and equality in the province of Saskatchewan. There was a woman, which they don't go to, on the John Gormley show that simply doesn't want further public humiliation. And if they cared about the women, they would stop this, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I think that the minister should know when you tell the truth, you're supposed to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

**The Speaker:** — Order. Order please. Order please. Order please. Order please. Order please. Order please. Order please. The members, I remind members not to reflect on other members in the House. And I would ask the member before she proceeds with her question to withdraw the last remark, then proceed.

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the last remark.

I'm going to finish the quote that was given by this lady on John Gormley's show. When Gormley asked if he should lay off government, the victim said, "Absolutely not." And I'm sure that that could be looked at.

When asked when the first complaints were brought forward, the Minister of PSC said things like, I can't answer that question with any precision.

I have a very straightforward question and I deserve, the members and the women deserve a straightforward answer. The women were wanting to know, when did the NDP finally learn about their harassment? And what did you do about it the minute you found out about the harassment complaint?

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the member for the Public Service Commission.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Did any minister have the Gillies report in their possession before April 1 of 2003? The answer is no, Mr. Speaker. Not one minister had the Gillies report. And in fact, Mr. Speaker, we read about it on the front page of the Saskatoon *StarPhoenix*. And by the way, Mr. Speaker, they say no one's going to believe me. Well it is the absolute truth. Not one minister had the Gillies report before we read it on the front page of *The StarPhoenix* on April 1, Mr. Speaker. But I do want to say this to the members opposite . . .

**The Speaker:** — Members will come to order. The members will come to order. Members will come to order. Order. The Chair recognizes the minister.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — But, Mr. Speaker, I know who's been taking licence. The members opposite have quoted Justice Laing, and they haven't tabled one document indicating what they said in this Legislative Assembly. They've said the hard drive was wiped clean. And it's simply not true. It was a incorrect statement. They said there was a gag order on the women and that's not true, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Mr. Speaker, the woman interviewed by CBC yesterday, and the other eight women who came forward, have lots to be angry about. The woman yesterday said she still, and I quote, "works with people who looked the other way . . . [far] too long." Sounds like Murdoch Carriere was busy harassing women for quite some time.

Why didn't this NDP government listen to the women who complained about Murdoch Carriere years ago? It may have saved other women from going through the same hell. Why did this NDP government ignore harassment complaints that they knew about?

[14:30]

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the member opposite that people's confidential personnel files are not shared with the front benches of the cabinet. It goes against the very freedom of information and personal privacy protection Act of which these members know nothing about, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons why the Saskatoon *StarPhoenix* settled with Mr. Carriere was because personnel records were splashed all over the front pages of the Saskatoon *StarPhoenix*, Mr. Speaker, and that is simply unacceptable according to the law, Mr. Speaker. People are entitled to have their personal records protected, including their health record, their school record, and their personnel record. I can neither confirm nor deny anything further about Mr. Carriere's personnel record.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Draude:** — Yesterday the victim said about Murdoch Carriere, and I quote:

All of his minions are still working out there. You know all of the people who covered his butt all the years, they're still out there and that's the one thing that I can't understand, why didn't they do a total housecleaning.

Who in this NDP government was covering for Murdoch Carriere?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

**Hon. Ms. Atkinson:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, what does this really speak to? What it speaks to is where the members opposite are at when it comes to the public service in the province of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, it really speaks to that people can say anything and these people will believe it. They talk about a hit list, Mr. Speaker. They talk about, let's clean house, Mr. Speaker.

Well that's exactly what we heard prior to the 2003 election campaign when the leader of the opposition at the time said they had a list, they know where the skunks were, and they were going to clean house. That's where those members are at, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### Communication of Budget Information

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we learned that the NDP is now leaking its own budget in a desperate attempt to deflect attention away from the Murdoch Carriere scandal.

Yesterday the Minister of Finance said he was launching an investigation — we give him credit for that — to find the source of the budget leak. It might have been a pretty short investigation, Mr. Speaker. All the minister really had to do was walk to the bathroom and look in the mirror.

Mr. Speaker, how is the minister's so-called investigation going? Has he found the source of the budget leak yet?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, that is a truly baseless accusation and extremely crass approach from the member opposite and he should know better.

I said to the media and I've said to this Assembly that it's my preference to present to this House the full financial plan of the government. I intend to do so on Thursday. The review that's been called I do hope will provide me with an understanding of the circumstances of how the information was made available to the public without authorization. But the member opposite really should know better than to cast baseless accusations. Shame. Shame.

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

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Shame on that minister, Mr. Speaker, for ignoring traditions of this Legislative Assembly and leaking his own budget.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Now, Mr. Speaker, I have a serious question for the minister and I'd ask him, I ask him, I ask him to listen carefully. I want to ask the Minister of Finance, and I want him to think about his answer. Was the Minister of Finance involved in any way in authorizing this budget leak?

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — No.

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

#### Anticipating Budget Policies

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Well stay tuned and see if we hear any more on that, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately for this tired, old government, their budget leaks aren't getting the kind of response they were hoping for. First, former NDP Finance minister, Janice MacKinnon, says the budget is unsustainable and is plunging the province back into deficit financing. And now on last night's news a member of the University of Regina Students' Union says she is not too impressed with the NDP's tax plan for young people. She said and I quote, Mr. Speaker:

Students don't take tax credits into consideration. I mean it's a pretty small detail and especially students who haven't paid taxes before really. I don't think it's a big

consideration. I mean students are going to be going where the jobs are.

Mr. Speaker, young people are not impressed with the NDP's attempt to buy their vote. They want a growth agenda for this province. Why is the NDP so out of touch with young people in this province today?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — It's interesting, coming from a critic who has no ideas on how to keep young people in this province, who has no credibility on this issue, and cannot even keep track of what his own spending estimates are. What I thought was particularly interesting is that the Leader of the Opposition says that he would rather find money for tax cuts for some of the wealthiest landowners in this province than to find money to help keep young people in the province.

I found it interesting that the Leader of the Opposition, that the Leader of the Sask Party says that there's no way that this province can afford to cap the drug costs for seniors, but he's got more money when it comes to supporting big business. I find it very curious what the positions are of the Saskatchewan Party. I will tell you this, Mr. Speaker, they are not the positions of the Saskatchewan people and we'll have an opportunity to test that soon enough.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That minister should be ashamed after taking half of their platform from the Saskatchewan Party *100 Ideas* if that's the best he can up with. He should be ashamed, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, here's what's even better, here's what's even better, Mr. Speaker. The young woman who criticized the NDP's budget plans last night on the news isn't just a member of the U of R [University of Regina] student executive. She is also on the executive of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's no wonder this budget is leaking. Mr. Speaker, it's being shot full of holes by the NDP's own members.

Mr. Speaker, first Janice MacKinnon said the NDP budget is unsustainable. Now a member of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats says the NDP's tax plan isn't right for students. How embarrassing for the minister, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, not even the NDP believe the minister is capable of delivering a good budget. Why should anyone else in Saskatchewan believe in this tired, old NDP government?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Speaking of tired and old, I would

point out that that critic started work in this building long before I did. And I can assure this member, I will be at work in this building long after he's done.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Let me tell you this, Mr. Speaker. This budget is not crafted in a way that is trying to curry support of any one political party. This budget is designed to speak to the values of Saskatchewan families, and on Thursday I will present a budget that does just that.

Unlike the Leader of the Opposition that says there cannot be enough money to support the capping of drug costs for our seniors, this government will present a budget that will do that. The member opposite says that there will not be enough money in this budget for us to be able to find tax measures to support young people to start their careers here. I will show him on Thursday that those members are wrong.

Their priorities are not the priorities of Saskatchewan people and Saskatchewan families. And the Saskatchewan Party should be ashamed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Why is the Premier on his feet?

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, before orders of the day pursuant to rule 61, I seek to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity.

**The Speaker:** — Would the Premier please state the nature of the motion and read the motion into the record?

## MOTION UNDER RULE 61

### Federal Budget

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — I will, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the people of Saskatchewan learned that a promise made to the people of Saskatchewan by the federal Conservative government had been broken. Mr. Speaker, the people of Saskatchewan learned that a betrayal of that promise was in the federal Conservative budget. Mr. Speaker, never mind on the principle of the promise but on the . . .

**The Speaker:** — I would just ask if the Premier would read the nature of the motion so that he can ask leave of the Assembly.

**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, if I may say, the nature of the motion, the nature of the motion is for this Assembly unanimously to express its disappointment, Mr. Speaker, so that this Assembly unanimously can express its disappointment to the federal Conservative government for breaking their promise and that this Assembly on behalf of the whole people of Saskatchewan unanimously would call on the 14 members of parliament from Saskatchewan to vote against a budget which breaks this solemn promise to the people of Saskatchewan. And, Mr. Speaker . . .

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!



**Hon. Mr. Calvert:** — And, Mr. Speaker, I will move, seconded by the member for Regina South, by leave of the Assembly:

That this Assembly express its disappointment with the federal government's decision to break its promise to the people of Saskatchewan with regards to equalization and that this Assembly call on all 14 Saskatchewan members of parliament to vote against the federal Conservative government's budget.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The Premier's requested leave under rule 61 to proceed with a priority debate on the motion just read. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has not been granted. Order, please. Why is the member from Canora-Pelly on his feet?

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I request leave to move a motion under rule 61.

**The Speaker:** — Would the member for Canora-Pelly read the motion into the record and state the nature of the motion briefly.

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in question period on March 15, 2007, the Premier was asked the following question:

Was the Premier ever briefed by any government official on the Murdoch Carriere harassment investigation and the subsequent disciplinary action prior to April 1, 2003?

And the Premier's answer, and the Premier's answer as recorded on page 857 of March 15 . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order please. Order please. On the point of order, what is the point of order? Government House Leader.

### POINT OF ORDER

**Hon. Mr. Hagel:** — Mr. Speaker, clearly under rule 61 the hon. member is entitled to describe the nature of his motion, not to enter into debate. The hon. member is clearly entering into debate, has not provided . . . hasn't had the courtesy . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order please. Order please. Order please. Order please. Unfortunately, I was unable to hear what the member . . . the point of order that was being raised. So I would ask members to respect the right of a member to make a point of order or any member to make a statement, and it should be heard. The Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Hagel:** — Mr. Speaker, I simply rise to make the point as you correctly advised the hon. member that it is in order to describe the nature of the motion he wishes to introduce, not to enter into debate which clearly he was doing, and in addition to which, Mr. Speaker, hasn't had the courtesy to provide advanced notice to the government of the desire to

proceed to an emergency motion.

Clearly there is not intent to do this seriously, Mr. Speaker. And I honourably suggest that the hon. member's position is out of order. He should immediately give notice of his motion, and then we can proceed.

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

**Mr. Gantefer:** — To respond to the point of order.

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

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that in proper conduction of fair and balanced decisions by yourself, you will extend to the official opposition's deputy leader with the same courtesy and latitude that was extended to the Premier appropriately. Mr. Speaker, clearly the member from Canora-Pelly was outlining the reasons for his motion. And I would suggest that he be allowed to continue.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[14:45]

**The Speaker:** — I thank the members for the point of order. I will rule that the members, any member is permitted to make a request under rule 61. I will allow the person who is, the member who is proposing the debate under rule 61 to proceed and to state his motion and to use a suitable amount of time, approximately the amount of time that I had allowed the previous member.

The Chair recognizes the member for Canora-Pelly.

### MOTION UNDER RULE 61

#### Murdoch Carriere

**Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have had ample time to listen to the question period today. We know that the Premier's response to my question last Thursday was "appropriately, no." Mr. Speaker, then within four hours, a news conference was called to give a different interpretation.

Mr. Speaker, this needs to be cleared up right now and I will move this, the motion is the following:

That this Assembly censure the Premier for misleading the Assembly regarding the date that he became aware of the Murdoch Carriere harassment investigation; and that this Assembly order the Premier to apologize for these actions; and further, that this Assembly order the government to table all legal opinions and advice that it received in regard to the Murdoch Carriere settlement.

I so move.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The member from Canora-Pelly has requested leave of the Assembly to proceed with a motion he just read under rule 61. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** — No.

**The Speaker:** — Leave is not granted. Order please. The Assembly will come to order. Order, order. The Assembly will come to order.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Government Whip.

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the government, I'll be tabling responses . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. The Assembly will come to order. Once again the Chair recognizes the Government Whip.

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the government, I'll be tabling responses to written questions 485 to 539 inclusive.

**The Speaker:** — Responses to questions 485 through to 593 have been submitted.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

### SECOND READINGS

#### Bill No. 45 — The Agricultural Societies Repeal Act

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

**Hon. Mr. Wartman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A rare event yesterday at this time, Mr. Speaker, I did find myself speechless, and today I would like to address the issue. Mr. Speaker, at the end of my remarks I will move second reading of The Agricultural Societies Repeal Act.

Mr. Speaker, The Agriculture Societies Act was first drafted before Saskatchewan became a province. Since then Saskatchewan has developed a much more advanced economy. As such the Act no longer reflects the current activities of agriculture societies here in Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions or SAASE has been responsible for overseeing the operations of agricultural societies in a director role.

For the past four years, SAASE has been reviewing the current Act to include needed changes and updates. Mr. Speaker, because of major changes in the roles of SAASE, the provincial government and the university extension division, a large number of changes and amendments to The Agricultural Societies Act were required. Therefore in 2005, SAASE proposed to its member agriculture societies that the Act be repealed and they agreed. Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food and the University of Saskatchewan, who are both SAASE board members, agreed the Act should be repealed.

Mr. Speaker, The Agricultural Societies Act was last amended

in 1978. At least 26 amendments or changes are needed to bring the Act up to date. Moreover several provincial Acts already exist that may provide and make loan guarantees to agriculture organizations and associations. Excuse me. In the absence of The Agricultural Societies Act, agriculture societies can apply under The Non-profit Corporations Act to form legal entities.

Mr. Speaker, SAASE is a provincially incorporated, non-profit association made up elected and appointed representatives of member agriculture societies and exhibition associations. The association has its own bylaws and regulations.

SAASE also includes representatives from the federal and provincial governments and the University of Saskatchewan. If The Agricultural Societies Act is repealed, the University of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food could still retain its membership on the SAASE board if required.

Mr. Speaker, the decision to repeal The Agricultural Societies Act follows extensive consultations. These consultations to review the current agriculture societies Act began four and a half years ago through the Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions. At the association's 2005 annual general meeting, members generally agreed that the Act did not accurately reflect its role. So SAASE proposed to its members that The Agricultural Societies Act be repealed. The SAASE board of directors represents all provincial agriculture societies.

The repeal of The Agricultural Societies Act will also affect four other Acts: The Auctioneers Act, The Cities Act, The Municipalities Act, and the Credit Union Act. Consultations with the Department of Justice have provided recommendations and changes to these affected Acts.

Mr. Speaker, the repeal of The Agricultural Societies Act will give agricultural societies new opportunities in the 21st century. Therefore I move that The Agricultural Societies Repeal Act be read a second time. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Agriculture and Food that Bill No. 45, The Agricultural Societies Repeal Act be now read a second time. The Chair recognizes the member for Melfort.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure for me to rise and speak on Bill No. 45, An Act to repeal The Agricultural Societies Act. Mr. Speaker, I think that everyone understands — and I believe the minister acknowledged — that agricultural societies in our province have really been a cornerstone of many worthwhile activities in our communities.

Agricultural societies very often are the epitome of promoting and making sure that the heritage of our agricultural communities and our farm community are accentuated and made to be part of our very fabric of our province. Agricultural societies I know in my community are very much responsible for running an annual fair and keeping many of the agricultural events alive and well in our communities.

I listened with interest to the minister's explanation, and I am pleased to hear that this decision was made with a great deal of consultation and involvement of the various agricultural societies that make up their parent organization. I know that our Agriculture critic will be interested in talking to these organizations and making sure that this repeal is indeed in their best interests and that they have other vehicles and methodologies in order to preserve the heritage and culture of our agricultural community. And in order for that to happen I would move to adjourn debate.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for Melfort that debate on second reading of Bill No. 45 be now adjourned. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

### **Bill No. 49 — The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act**

**The Speaker:** — The Chair recognizes the Minister of Justice.

**Hon. Mr. Quennell:** — I rise today to move second reading of The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act. The last 10 years have seen a transformation of the Canadian mortgage market. As of mid-2006 the total mortgage market in Canada was valued at \$687 billion. Industry projects the market will reach \$808 billion by the end of 2007. Presently, mortgage brokers account for approximately 27 per cent of the mortgage market share among all purchasers in Canada. Only 10 years ago, mortgage brokers accounted for just 3 per cent of this mortgage market.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to update and modernize Saskatchewan's mortgage brokerage legislation by providing a regulatory framework to address issues that have arisen as a result of the expansion of the mortgage brokerage industry. The Bill repeals the existing mortgage brokers Act which was originally enacted in 1967 and has not undergone any substantial changes since that time.

The Bill establishes four categories of licences. It will require businesses that broker mortgages to have a mortgage brokerage licence. It will require individuals who broker mortgages on behalf of the mortgage brokerages to have either a broker's or an associate's licence. Businesses that administer mortgages for investors will be required to have a mortgage administrator's licence.

The Bill provides for a brokerage model for the sector that will ensure that individual brokers and associates are supervised and acting in accordance with the Act. It will require mortgage brokerages to appoint a principal broker to act as the compliance officer for the mortgage brokerage.

The Bill also provides for requirements surrounding the handling of trust property. For example, mortgage brokerages will be required to obtain a specific endorsement on their licence in order to receive or hold trust money. Mortgage brokerages and mortgage administrators that receive or hold trust property will be required to ensure that comprehensive

records are kept regarding all transactions involving trust property.

The proposed legislation establishes disclosure requirements to ensure borrowers and investors are able to make informed decisions with respect to their mortgage transactions.

The Bill allows for regulations to be established setting requirements for the capital, errors and omissions insurance, and education or other proficiency requirements for licensees. It also allows the superintendent to require applicants and licensees to file financial security with the superintendent.

Mr. Speaker, The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act will require mortgage brokerages and mortgage administrators to act in the best interest of borrowers and private investors. The Bill also protects borrowers and private investors by prohibiting unlicensed entities from collecting fees for services when they should have been licensed.

The Bill also includes provisions that prohibit unfair or deceptive practices, prohibit offering guarantees in respect of mortgage investments, and prohibit making the receipt of a product or service contingent on the purchase of another product or service.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill also updates the administrative framework, including the superintendent's investigative and enforcement powers, in order to effectively regulate the industry. The proposed legislation does not include licensing requirements for mortgage lenders and traders. These businesses will be regulated under The Trust and Loan Corporations Act, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, we have consulted with mortgage brokerages, licensees, financial institutions, and trade associations in preparation of this Bill. Overall the result of the consultations have been positive and show a broad industry support for a new Act. The submissions provided by these various groups have greatly contributed to the development of this Bill.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to move second reading of The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act.

[15:00]

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Justice that Bill No. 49, The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act be now read a second time. The Chair recognizes the member for Melfort.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise and speak on the Bill No. 49, An Act respecting Mortgage Brokerages, Brokers, Associates and Mortgage Administrators.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister has quite correctly outlined, mortgages are a very important part of the framework of building an economy and building a province. Every single one of us from time to time, I'm sure, have undertaken a mortgage to buy a home, to buy a business, to be involved in growing the economy directly or indirectly. And I think that it is a useful exercise to make sure that legislation governing the conduct of

those providing mortgages are appropriate and time sensitive in an appropriate way.

Mr. Speaker, the minister outlined a very comprehensive piece of legislation with many parts to the table of contents outlining the Bill. It's some 37 pages long. And there is a great deal of technical detail in this piece of legislation that I'm sure that the official opposition is going to want to scrutinize with some detail. And in order for that to happen, Mr. Speaker, at this time I'd move to adjourn debate.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member from Melfort that debate on second reading of Bill No 49 be now adjourned. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — The motion is carried.

#### **Bill No. 50 — The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007**

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to move second reading of Bill No. 50, The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007.

The municipal employee pension plan is a defined benefit plan administered by the Municipal Employees' Pension Commission. The plan provides retirement benefits to the employees of school divisions, urban and rural municipalities, regional colleges, public libraries, and other local authorities within the province.

It is desirable, Mr. Speaker, to amend the terms of appointment of the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the commission so that it coincides with the fiscal year of the plan. For transition purposes, those currently elected to the positions of chairperson or vice-chairperson will continue to serve until their successors are elected, prior to December 31, '07, for the '08 year.

Mr. Speaker, employers participating in the plan have the ability to designate firefighters and police officers under the terms of the plan. Designated members and their employers pay higher contributions to be entitled to an early retirement date under the plan. We are introducing an amendment, Mr. Speaker, to comply with the ruling provided by the Canada Revenue Agency.

As such, designated members will no longer be able to purchase an early retirement date for the period of time the member was a firefighter or a police officer with the employer but was not, quote, "designated" under the terms of the plan. These members however will continue to have the option to convert their regular service to designated service to increase the value of their pension and provide themselves with an early retirement date. Although we have been ordered to do this by the Canada Revenue Agency, I would note that this impacts a few members of the plan.

Mr. Speaker, at present when a retired member gets married

after retirement, the new spouse is not eligible for a survivor benefit upon the death of the retired member. We believe it's desirable, Mr. Speaker, to offer retired members the opportunity to restructure their pensions to provide a surviving spouse benefit for a new spouse.

The pension will be based upon the total value of the retired member's pension immediately prior to the recalculation date, and the spousal benefit than it can be . . . sorry, and the spousal benefit it can provide given the ages of the retired member and the new spouse. The new benefit will be cost neutral to the plan and the retired member. The cost of the recalculation will be borne by the retired member.

Mr. Speaker, members who are entitled to a small pension at the time of retirement receive the value of their allowance in one lump sum payment. This practice provides the administrative cost savings to the plan and affords the members the opportunity to use the lump sum payment in a manner that best meets their retirement needs.

This amendment causes the plan to use the small benefit allowance provided by The Pension Benefit Act, 1992. The amendment removes a requirement of the legislature to amend this Act as changes are made to The Pension Benefit Act of '92. It's proposed that these changes will all come into effect upon assent.

As such I am pleased to move second reading of The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 50, The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007 be now read a second time. The Chair recognizes the member for Melfort.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise and speak on Bill No. 50, An Act to amend The Municipal Employees' Pension Act.

Mr. Speaker, the minister has outlined some very important reasons why this piece of legislation is being introduced to ensure that our municipal employees' pensions are appropriate to the changing circumstances in the economy and the world, and make sure that spousal benefits are appropriately allocated in the event of the passing away of a primary beneficiary. Mr. Speaker, I believe that these changes are indeed very important and provide a great deal of comfort and security to people that are insured under these pension benefits.

However we would like to make sure that we have an opportunity to consult with the affected people as much as possible, and in order to facilitate that I would move at this time to adjourn debate.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member from Melfort that debate on second reading of Bill No. 50 be now adjourned. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried.

**Bill No. 51 — The Public Employees Pension Plan  
Amendment Act, 2007**

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

**Hon. Mr. Thomson:** — Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to move second reading of Bill No. 51 which is The Public Employees Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2007. The public employee pension plan is governed by the public employee pension board. This board consists of nine members — four appointed from participating employers and four from the employee associations. The Chair is selected through an independent selection process undertaken by the board.

The right to make these appointments is actually fixed in the Act. At present SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology], the SLGA [Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority], and Sask Property Management Corporation are indicated in the Act to jointly appoint a member of the board.

Effective April 1, 2005, however, the Property Management Corporation became a department of the government, and the Public Service Commission appointee now represents the employees of this former corporation. As such, it's necessary for us to amend this Act to remove the Property Management Corporation as an employer that may jointly appoint a member to the board.

As well, Mr. Speaker, the Human Rights Code amendment Act of '06-07 is currently being considered by this Assembly. If the Act receives Royal Assent, mandatory retirement will be removed from the employee pension plan. This Bill that I'm tabling today will allow members to contribute to the public employee pension plan for leaves of absence that occur after the age of 65. In so doing, the amendment ensures that members will be treated equally.

Mr. Speaker, the federal Income Tax Act requires that a member of a retired savings plan commence receipt of his or her pension by the end of the calendar year when a member turns 69. This rather rarely happens. But on occasion, members do forget to apply for a pension, which they may be entitled, and the public employee pension board cannot locate the member.

Since the member's money cannot remain in the pension fund, it's necessary to ensure that processes are in place to address the situation. At present when a member cannot be located, an annuity is required to be purchased on the member's behalf. Once the annuity is purchased, it cannot be altered even when the board locates the member and the member determines the annuity does not suit his or her needs. This board allows the public employee pension board to select a prescribed pension benefit on behalf of the member that best meets the perceived needs of the member at the time.

In May 2006, the public employee pension plan introduced the variable pension benefit. I know this was an item of some debate within the Assembly. The variable benefit allowed the board, however, to retain a member's funds in the plan and to

pay a pension. Once the board is able to locate the member, the member may make changes to the benefit payable; how the variable benefit account is invested; or if the member so chooses, they may elect to move the monies out of the plan or choose some other retirement income method. The variable benefit therefore offers more flexibility for the member than if the funds were used to simply purchase the annuity as was the old practice.

When a member of the plan elects the variable benefit, Mr. Speaker, the member is required to obtain consent from their spouse. In the case of the board electing on behalf of the member to undertake the variable benefit, if it cannot locate the member and the member's spouse can also not be located, it's necessary to deem spousal consent. I appreciate this sounds like a rather technical set of amendments, Mr. Speaker, and in fact it is.

This Bill will however give the board the permission to move a member's pension to the variable pension benefit on behalf of a member if it cannot locate that member by the end of the calendar year and the member turns 69. And it also gives the ability for the board to deem spousal consent when necessary. We believe that this will permit the board to direct pension payments to the General Revenue Fund if the member is located.

The terms and conditions to be placed on the board when electing a variable benefit on behalf of the member need to be permitted through regulations. These will include beneficiary designations, instructions for investing the member's funds, determination of the annual payment amount, and determining the method of payment. Again as earlier stated, Mr. Speaker, the provisions are needed only — only — where the public employees pension board is placed in a situation where it can't locate a member who is turning 69.

The board will still be required to take all reasonable steps to locate the member prior to making decisions on the member's behalf. And as such, Mr. Speaker, I think it's important to note that this Bill is really intended to address the needs of a very specific set of members of the public employees pension plan. It also prescribes processes that are in place to allow the board to act in what it perceives to be the best interests of members that it can not locate.

This Bill also ensures the composition of the public employees pension board adequately reflects the membership of the pension plan and its participating employers. This Bill also removes the provision that affects members on the basis of the age when there's no reason in policy to do so.

As such, Mr. Speaker, I do move second reading of The Public Employees Pension Plan Amendment Act of 2007.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 51, The Public Employees Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2007 be now read a second time. The Chair recognizes the member for Melfort.

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to speak

briefly on Bill No. 51, an Act to amend The Public Employees Pension Plan Act.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister outlined, it's a very technical piece of legislation that updates this pension plan, and I think it's very appropriate. One of the clauses that I noticed, particularly in light of the federal government's budget changes yesterday, is that I believe they moved from age 69 to age 71 for consideration of pensions and the related implications of pensions. And I note that in the piece of legislation before us today, they're still speaking of age 69. And it may well be important for us to consider a possible amendment to move it from 69 to 71 to make it continuous and in keeping with the changes that are happening at the federal level.

However, Mr. Speaker, that can be addressed later as we have an opportunity to consult with the people affected to see if they would support the notion of using age 71 as a more appropriate benchmark for consideration in this legislation. And in order for that consultation to occur, at this time, Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn debate.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for Melfort that debate on Bill 51, second reading, be now adjourned. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Motion is carried. Why is the member for Melfort on his feet?

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With leave to introduce a motion to substitute on committees.

**The Speaker:** — Is leave granted for the member for Melfort to introduce motions.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

## MOTIONS

### Committee Substitution

**Mr. Gantefer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the member from Estevan:

That the name of Nancy Heppner be substituted for the name of Lyle Stewart on the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member from Melfort, seconded by the Member for Estevan:

That the name of Nancy Heppner be substituted for the name of Lyle Stewart on the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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 Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Hagel:** — Mr. Speaker, in order to accommodate the work later this day by the Standing Committees on Human Services as well as Crown and Central Agencies, I move that this House do now adjourn.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:12.]



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