



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of

The Honourable P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

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

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Addley, 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.]

Clerk: — I wish to advise members of the Assembly that Mr. Speaker will not be present today to open today's sitting.

The Deputy Speaker: — Let us begin our day with prayer.

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. It's a pleasure to present another petition to the Assembly today on behalf of residents from the communities of, basically communities of Broadview and Cowessess in regards to dialysis in their area. And I'll read the petition:

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 Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cypress Hills.

Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I rise to present a petition again today on behalf of constituents from Cypress Hills, those concerned about the impending closure of the SaskPower office in Shaunavon. The prayer reads as follows:

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.

Madam Deputy Speaker, today's three pages of petitions are signed by individuals from the communities of Shaunavon, Climax, Claydon, Frontier, and Val Marie. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I too have a petition to present on behalf of citizens of the province regarding a dialysis machine in the Broadview Union Hospital. 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.

Madam Deputy Speaker, this petition is signed by people from Broadview and Fenwood. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Rosetown-Elrose.

Mr. Hermanson: — Thank you, Madam Speaker. The people of Saskatchewan are speaking out through a petition. This petition is signed by residents who are concerned that without a SaskPower office, submission of electrical and gas permits will be more difficult to obtain and cause delays in customer hook-ups. Madam 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 ever pray.

Madam Speaker, the signatures on this petition come from the fine community of Rosetown and I am pleased to present it on their behalf.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am pleased today to rise and read a petition of citizens concerned of the safety when driving on Highway No. 5. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary action to upgrade and widen Highway No. 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

And the signatures, Madam Deputy Speaker, are from Muenster, Saskatoon, Humboldt, Lake Lenore. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Estevan.

Ms. Eagles: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I have a petition today from citizens of this province who are very concerned about the condition of Highway 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, Madam Deputy Speaker, the signatures on this are from people in Lake Alma, Gladmar, and Radville. I so present. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Biggar.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I'd like to present another petition opposed to possible reduction of health care services in Wilkie. 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 Wilkie Health Centre and special care home maintain at the very least the current level of services.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by the good citizens of Wilkie and district. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Silver Springs.

Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today on behalf of people across Saskatchewan who for the past eight years have been lobbying this government for a dedicated children's hospital within a hospital in 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 a provincial children's hospital in Saskatoon.

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

Today the petitioners come from the constituencies of Saskatoon Sutherland, Saskatoon Greystone, and Saskatoon Silver Springs. I so present, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Wood River.

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Once again I rise with a petition from citizens that are very concerned that the withdrawal of lab services from the Lafleche and District Health Centre would cause undue hardships, especially to senior citizens. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary actions to ensure that lab services are continued at the Lafleche and District Health Centre.

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

Madam Deputy Speaker, this is signed by the good folks of Lafleche, Mankota, Aneroid, and Kincaid. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Rosthern-Shellbrook.

Mr. Allchurch: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise in the Assembly today to bring forth a petition signed by citizens of Saskatchewan that are concerned with the condition of some of our highways in the province. And the prayer reads as follows:

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

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

Madam Deputy Speaker, signatures to this petition are from North Battleford, Livelong, and Calgary. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Batoche.

Mr. Kirsch: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to read a petition from citizens in my constituency that are concerned with the cellular coverage done by SaskTel. And in a lot of cases it is unreliable or, in most cases, non-existent. The prayer reads 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 the regions encompassing the constituency of Batoche.

And is duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And, Madam Deputy Speaker, it is signed by the citizens of Muenster, Humboldt, Annaheim, and Lake Lenore. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Arm River-Watrous.

Mr. Brkich: — Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have a petition calling on the Government of Saskatchewan to upgrade Highway 20 to primary weight status:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to ensure that Highway 20 be upgraded to primary weight status to ensure the economic viability in the surrounding areas.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

This particular petition is signed by the good citizens from Nokomis and Lockwood. I so present.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Southeast.

Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I rise in the House today to present a petition regarding the widening of Highway No. 5, a highway that travels through the width of my constituency. I will 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 upgrade and widen Highway No. 5

from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

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

Madam Deputy Speaker, this petition is signed by the good citizens from Saskatoon and surrounding area. I so present on their behalf. Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel: — According to order the petitions received at the last sitting have been reviewed and pursuant to rule 15(7) are hereby read and received.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — The Chair recognizes the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Services.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Ms. Junor: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its eighth report. I move, seconded by the member from Cypress Hills:

That the eighth report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

The Deputy Speaker: — It's been moved by the Chair, seconded by the member for Cypress Hills:

That the eighth report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the Chair of Human Services Committee.

Standing Committee on Human Services

Ms. Junor: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 27, The Film Employment Tax Credit Amendment Act, 2006 without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Madam Deputy Speaker, as the Minister for Culture, Youth and Recreation, I request leave to waive

consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill.

The Deputy Speaker: — The Government House Leader has asked for leave to waive consideration of this Bill. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[13:45]

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried. When shall the Bill be read a third time? Government House Leader.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 27 — The Film Employment Tax Credit Amendment Act, 2006

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

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the Bill now be read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 25, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2006 without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I move the consideration for Committee of the Whole be now waived.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Government House Leader that consideration of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill be waived. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this Bill be read a third time? Government House Leader.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 25 — The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2006/Loi de 2006 sur l'Assemblée législative et le Conseil exécutif

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

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 25 be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 26, The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendments Act, 2006 without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration of this Bill in the Committee of the Whole.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 26. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this Bill be read a third time? Government House Leader.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 26 — The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendments Act, 2006

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

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 26 be now read for the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 30, The Land Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Amendment Act, 2006 without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Industry and Resources.

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

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 30, The Land Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Amendment Act, 2006. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this Bill be read a third time? The Minister of Industry and Resources.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 30 — The Land Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Amendment Act, 2006

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

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has moved that Bill No. 30 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of Crown and Central Agencies.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Deputy Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its eighth report.

I move, seconded by the member from Humboldt:

That the eighth report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies be now concurred in.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair and seconded by the member from Humboldt:

That the eighth report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies be now concurred in.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Deputy Speaker, I have a number of questions to lay before the Assembly today. And I give notice that I shall on day no. 39 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: how many harassment-related complaints were filed in the fiscal year 2000-2001, for '01-02, '02-03, '03-04, '04-05, '05-06, and '06-07?

I also give notice that I shall on day no. 39 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: of the harassment complaints filed in the 2001 fiscal year, how many were verified?

And I have the same questions for the years '01-02, '03-04,

'04-05, and '05-06 and '06-07.

I give notice that I shall on day no. 39 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: how many department employees were charged with harassment for the fiscal year 2000-2001?

And I have the same questions for the years '01-02, '02-03, '03-04, '04-05, '05-06, '06-07.

As well I give notice on day no. 39 to ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: how many department employee harassment cases resulted in convictions, disciplinary action, or firings in the fiscal year 2000-2001, '01-02, '02-03, '03-04, '04-05, '05-06, '06-07?

Finally, Madam Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall on day no. 39 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: how much money was paid out as a result of firings related to department employee harassment in the fiscal year 2000-2001, '01-02, '02-03, '03-04, '04-05, '05-06, '06-07?

Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Humboldt.

Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall on day no. 39 ask the government the following question:

To the Minister Responsible for Investment Saskatchewan: has Investment Saskatchewan financed in any way the purchase of L & M Wood Products by Beauval Forest Industries? And if so, how much money was invested?

In addition:

To the Minister Responsible for Investment Saskatchewan: to date how much money has Investment Saskatchewan invested in Beauval Forest Industries?

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: — Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. It's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you to the members of the Legislative Assembly a group that is seated in your gallery. It's a group that's accompanied by two staff from the Department of Government Relations. And this is a group of nine new foreign service officers at Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and they are here as part of a cross-Canada study tour.

This tour is an important part of the training program for entry-level officers in order to familiarize themselves with different areas of Canada. They are meeting with a variety of community groups, organizations, businesses, and government while they're here. I look forward to meeting with them after the question period.

We're very pleased to have the cross-Canada study tour visit us in Saskatchewan for a two-day program. I look forward to the opportunity to tell them about the wonderful opportunities that Canada presents to the rest of the world. Look forward to . . . Well I don't think I have to tell them about the wonderful weather that we're experiencing on the first day of spring — a beautiful, brilliant, sunshine day.

And as to the warmth of the people of Saskatchewan, well there, Madam Speaker, I'm going to have to call on the representatives of the people of Saskatchewan to ensure that these people when they go out to be ambassadors for not just Canada but for Saskatchewan, that they are well aware of the warmth of the people here in Saskatchewan.

So I ask my colleagues to join with me in extending them a very warm welcome today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Rosetown-Elrose.

Mr. Hermanson: — Well thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to join with the minister, and on behalf of the official opposition, in welcoming the nine new foreign service officers to our Assembly. We're very proud of Saskatchewan. We're very proud of our country. And we're also very proud of the work that our foreign service does.

I believe many of the members in this House, including yours truly, have had the benefit of being helped by our foreign service when visiting other countries. So we wish you well as you represent our country. Do remember Saskatchewan — the greatest province in the Confederation. And best wishes from the official opposition.

Congratulations on your new work. Thank you.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — With the patience of the Assembly, Madam Deputy Chair would like to also recognize an important date for a constituent of mine. Be it noted that today is the 49th birthday of one Ken Ring, who is our Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel at the Table. I'd ask all members to join me in congratulating him on this important milestone in his life.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Meadow Lake.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Hon. Mr. Sonntag: — Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Today is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Madam Speaker, this special day was designated by the United Nations following a terrible incident in 1960 when police opened fire and killed 69 people and injured many others during a peaceful demonstration in South Africa. The demonstration was in opposition to the South African system of apartheid.

A lot of progress has been made since that time, Madam Speaker. However the impact of racism continues to be felt by too many people and is a serious social problem around the world and unfortunately yet in our province.

In Saskatchewan we share a vision where all people are treated equitably, and I'm proud to say that the provincial government continues to work hard on initiatives to fulfill this vision. We believe that all people have the right to realize their full potential, regardless of race, colour, and national or ethnic origin. As such it is important that we all reject racism and stand together with those people who have been and continue to be discriminated against.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this Assembly and all the people of Saskatchewan to recognize the significance of today, and work in our own daily lives to promote mutual respect and honour the human rights of all of our citizens. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Kelvington-Wadena.

Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in recognizing March 21 as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Unfortunately racism is just as much a problem in Saskatchewan as it is in other parts of the world. Racism is nasty and it's insidious. It has the power to divide friends and families. I'm frustrated. In Saskatchewan today, as we enter our second century as a province, racism continues to hover in our communities. It's time for all of us to stand up and say, it's enough. It's time to see everyone as human beings, not just from being from one race or another.

I think we have come a long way in celebrating different cultures and races in Saskatchewan, but we still have a long way to go. Our differences must be what unite us and make us stronger, not what divide us. Combined as a people, we are indeed stronger than the sum of the individuals. That's why it is important that we make an effort every day — not just on March 21 — to stamp out stereotypes and increase understanding.

Understanding is a powerful tool. It enables us to see the world through another's eyes and gives us a new perspective. Madam Deputy Speaker, we need to work so that eventually, perhaps

not in my lifetime, there will be no longer a need to have a day for the elimination of racial discrimination. Racial discrimination will be gone forever.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Coronation Park.

Regina Team in Senior Men's Curling Championship

Mr. Trew: — Thank you, Madam Speaker. We should all let loose once in a while. It can be good for the spirit.

Picture a world where even grown-up men are actually encouraged to yell at each other, to throw stones repeatedly at the guy some distance away. Picture a world where one man is not ridiculed for sweeping or cleaning the house. Picture a world where after much yelling and throwing rocks, the men with the losing record tell the winners to travel far and fast, and the winners do. In Canada this is our national sport; in Saskatchewan of course it's curling.

Madam Speaker, the best senior curling team in Saskatchewan this year are Bill Wepler, Brad Gellner, Stan Rowe, and John Grundy. These four curlers are the toast of the Highland Curling Club in north Regina. Our team is in Trois-Rivières, Quebec at this moment at the Canadian senior men's championship. As of Tuesday evening, we are at two and four. I'm confident our team are representing Saskatchewan well and will continue doing what they do best — throw rocks, yell at each other, sweep, and have fun.

The Highland club president, Roy Dorwart, is joined by other Highland members and all Saskatchewan people in wishing our Saskatchewan foursome — Bill Wepler, Brad Gellner, Stan Rowe, and John Grundy — good curling, good sportsmanship, and good luck.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:00]

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Melville-Saltcoats.

Saskatchewan Party Dinner in Weyburn-Big Muddy

Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Speaker, I had the good fortune last night to attend a banquet in Weyburn-Big Muddy constituency. And, Madam Speaker, the Leader of the Official Opposition got to speak to a very enthusiastic crowd out there last night.

But one of the things we found out very quickly last night, a number of my colleagues, Madam Speaker, was that the new member for Weyburn-Big Muddy is even more popular now than he was at the time of the by-election. We were told by many people last night that they appreciate the work that he's doing in and out of the legislature.

Madam Speaker, people from all walks of life attended last night. There were city representatives, chamber of commerce

members, business people, ranchers, farmers, blue-collar workers, and even, Madam Speaker, there was a number of provincial employees and that's always a good sign of things to come.

Madam Speaker, 200 people filled that hall last night and the only reason there wasn't more is the hall wouldn't hold any more. Madam Speaker, the people we talked to last night see the possibility of a bright, bright future for the province of Saskatchewan, but everyone is coming to the realization for that to happen changes have to be made.

The number one question that every one of us were asked is when will the next election be called — we can't wait; we've done our job; we've elected a vibrant, energetic, young MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] for the Sask Party. Now we hope the rest of the province follows suit.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

World Water Day

Mr. Borgerson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, Saskatchewan is blessed with abundant water resources — nearly one and a half per cent of all the fresh water in the world — but we'll need to manage this precious resource carefully to safeguard it for the future.

Madam Deputy Speaker, tomorrow is World Water Day, a special day set aside to celebrate its importance in our lives and to promote awareness of water-related issues. Here in Saskatchewan we are already taking significant steps to address those issues.

Just last week Saskatchewan's first report card on the health of the province's watersheds was released. This is an important milestone in the implementation of the safe drinking water strategy, our comprehensive action plan to deal with risks that affect drinking water. The report will be the benchmark for future comparisons and provide the basis for decision makers to act in the interests of long-term environmental sustainability.

In November of last year we released the Saskatchewan water conservation plan. The primary objective of this plan is to raise awareness about how much water we use and how we can use it more carefully and efficiently.

Madam Deputy Speaker, we can make big gains by making simple changes to the way we use water, and each drop saved will be another small gift to future generations. Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Wood River.

Columnist's Views

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Well it's not often that question period is called the most interesting television in Saskatchewan, but that's what it's being called by one political commentator in the province.

Madam Deputy Speaker, I'd like to share the thoughts of that columnist and his take on the Murdoch Carriere scandal. According to Rawlco Radio's Murray Wood, and I quote:

The most interesting television in Saskatchewan has to be question period at the legislature. You may be watching a government in its death throes. The Saskatchewan Party has been launching a daily volley of broadsides against the NDP over the Murdoch Carriere case and it is scoring hits.

Mr. Wood, like all of us on this side of the House, has seen through the member from Nutana's failed attempts to deflect the issue by raising complaints about the federal government. And I continue with the quote from Murray Wood:

Now you may wonder what Stephen Harper has to do with all of this. Good question. The answer, nothing. But it's as useful an answer as almost any other we're hearing from the government as to why giving a man fired after complaints from female employees [gets] \$275,000.

The government's refusal to say more is hurting it politically. Admittedly a lot can happen between now and an election call but just as the federal Liberals couldn't shake the damage done by Gomery, it's started to seem the taint around the Carriere case may . . . [put] the last nail in the . . . coffin [of the NDP].

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Regina Walsh Acres.

Opposition Stand on Equalization

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Last year when the federal Conservatives were elected, the Leader of the Opposition put out a press release saying he was confident that negotiations on equalization would now make, quote, "significant and timely progress."

And according to *The StarPhoenix*, the Leader of the Opposition said, quote, ". . . he was reassured there was a commitment to the Conservative platform on equalization."

In fact the Leader of the Opposition was so taken with the Prime Minister that the *Prince Albert Daily Herald* claimed the Leader of the Opposition was, quote, ". . . sounding like an absolutely Stephen Harper sycophant."

When talking about the Saskatchewan Party position on equalization the member from Cypress Hills has this to say, quote, ". . . we can be a little more patient, [and] take the Prime Minister at his word."

Now the members opposite are supposedly outraged by Harper's broken promise. And yet yesterday they refused to even debate a motion calling for their buddies, Saskatchewan Conservative MPs, to vote against the federal budget. Madam

Deputy Speaker, the members opposite are crying crocodile tears. They are clearly still on the side with their pals on the equalization issue. In other words, Madam Deputy Speaker, along with the Harper Conservatives, the Saskatchewan Party is implementing another plan — this one called penalize Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the member for Martensville.

Government Response to Harassment Complaints Regarding Murdoch Carriere

Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Earlier this week, the former minister for the Environment downplayed his relationship with Murdoch Carriere. Today I have a letter signed by one of the victims in the Murdoch Carriere case which paints a somewhat different picture. The statement reads, and I quote:

When I complained . . . about his behaviour, Carriere would respond with several points. He would say I was lucky to have my job. He would say he had friends in high places, while pointing to a picture of the Environment Minister, Buckley Belanger. That picture was always in Carriere's office.

Can the former minister of the Environment explain why Murdoch Carriere used his relationship with the minister to further intimidate his victims?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

Hon. Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The former minister of the Environment has already indicated that he knew Mr. Carriere. It was a professional relationship. He indicated very clearly that they were not friends as the members opposite have insinuated time and time again. The member opposite knows that the minister of the Environment clearly stated that he knew Mr. Carriere. They were acquaintances. It was through their professional relationship from minister to employee in the department, but they were not friends.

Now if Mr. Carriere wanted to portray the relationship in some other way, obviously that was how Mr. Carriere chose to portray the relationship. But I think the member from the North has clearly indicated that he was not a good friend of Mr. Carriere.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Martensville.

Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. The statement goes on to say, and I quote:

Some people tried to do the right thing but were shut down. Most people in high places just turned a blind eye to Murdoch Carriere's behaviour.

Because this NDP [New Democratic Party] government turned a blind eye to complaints, women lived in a culture of fear. Is the NDP government investigating how long Murdoch Carriere was allowed to continue his harassment of women, both regarding the nine women involved in this settlement and regarding any prior complaints filed against Murdoch Carriere?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The Minister for the Public Service Commission.

Hon. Ms. Atkinson: — Well, Madam Speaker, I'd just like to say this to the members opposite. This really does speak to the members opposite credibility. And let me say why. Mr. Speaker, on more than one occasion they have portrayed — and they're doing it right now on an advertising campaign — they've portrayed the \$275,000 settlement with Mr. Carriere as payment for harassment. And, Mr. Speaker, I find that totally incredible.

Secondly, they accused the government of wiping the hard drive, and we've been able to dispel that myth. And once again it goes to their credibility. The third thing that they said was that there was a gag order on the women. And clearly we've been able to dispel that myth, Mr. Speaker.

Then they said in this House that Justice Laing had made a statement regarding the nature of the harassment and how it had gone on for years and had done nothing. Yet the document they tabled in the House had absolutely nothing to say on that matter. It's their credibility, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Martensville.

Ms. Heppner: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I thought that was a pretty easy question. All I asked was if the NDP government was investigating how long Murdoch Carriere was allowed to carry on. The victim ends her statement with these words, and I quote:

Murdoch Carriere should not have been rewarded for his repeated harassment of women in the workplace. It is wrong.

And it is wrong. That's how the victims feel. That's how women in the workplace feel, and that's how people of this province feel. Why didn't the NDP government deal with Murdoch Carriere long before he harassed the nine women in this settlement?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The Minister for the Public Service Commission.

Hon. Ms. Atkinson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, the

complaints from the nine women who still work in various departments of government came to the attention of the Department of the Environment in September 2002 when they were formally lodged. An investigation occurred, and a report was provided to the deputy minister. The deputy minister did three things — he demoted Mr. Carriere; he red circled him, and he put him on leave without pay.

When the Government of Saskatchewan — the politicians — found out the nature of the discipline, Madam Deputy Speaker, and the nature of the allegations, we made a decision to terminate Mr. Carriere's employment. As a result of that termination, there are a number of legal issues that were filed by Mr. Carriere in a civil action against the province, and we settled with Mr. Carriere for \$275,000. That was to settle defamation of character, as well as all kinds of other negligences, abuse of power and lost income, Mr. Speaker.

There are two different issues. We settled with him not for the harassment, but for the way we handled the situation, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the member for Martensville.

Ms. Heppner: — Madam Deputy Speaker, the government continues to be incredibly defensive about this issue, and at the very least, these women deserve somebody in this NDP government to stand up and take responsibility for what happened.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Ms. Heppner: — The very first step could be that the minister could apologize to these women for not having dealt with Murdoch Carriere long ago. It's a very small step, but all of the women harassed by Murdoch Carriere deserve to hear it. Will the minister apologize to the victims of Murdoch Carriere and make a commitment today to undertake an investigation into any prior harassment complaints that were brought before these nine women came forward.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister for the Public Service Commission.

Hon. Ms. Atkinson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I think we sent a very strong signal that harassment is not acceptable in the Government of Saskatchewan, Madam Deputy Speaker. He was fired. He lost his livelihood, Madam Deputy Speaker. He was fired. He was put on leave without pay. He was demoted three levels. He was red-circled. He was sent to Regina without any staff. He lost his large budget. And when it came to light in terms of the political people, we made a decision to fire him.

He no longer works for the Government of Saskatchewan, and he is no longer in any workplace in the Government of Saskatchewan in this province, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the member for Melfort.

Property Tax Relief

Mr. Gantefer: — Madam Speaker, Saskatchewan homeowners pay some of the highest property taxes in Canada. Since the 2003 election, this Premier and this government have been promising a long-term plan to reduce the educational property tax portion. Time after time, he has betrayed the promise of Saskatchewan by breaking that promise. And now, the Minister of Finance is saying the NDP is going to betray Saskatchewan people once again because there is no long-term plan for property tax relief in tomorrow's budget.

Madam Speaker, why has the NDP broken this promise and betrayed the people of Saskatchewan?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, we made a commitment to Saskatchewan people that 30 per cent of all new equalization money flowing into this province would go to property tax relief. Tomorrow I will table a budget that will keep that promise.

My question, my question, is why is it the Prime Minister of Canada had money for tax cuts in Quebec but not money for tax cuts for Canadians? And why is the Sask Party supporting that position?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, Hear!

[14:15]

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Gantefer: — Madam Speaker, this Premier was promising property tax relief long before there was any talk of a new equalization deal. This Premier made the promise in the 2003 SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities] convention when he said, "the status quo is not on." He made, Madam Speaker, he made the promise again during the 2003 election campaign when he said there was room to accept the recommendations of the Boughen Commission within the fiscal capacity of this government.

The Minister of Finance himself made the promise again when he started amalgamating school divisions. In a November 12, 2004, news release, the current Minister of Finance said, when he was then the Learning minister, and I quote, "These changes are necessary . . . to provide long-term sustainable property tax relief." Madam Speaker, where is this sustainable property tax relief? Why have they betrayed the people of this province?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — That long-term sustainable property tax relief for farm families is contained in last year's budget. It'll be contained in next year's budget. It'll be contained in the

budget the year after.

The question I have is, the question I want to know is, why is that right wing Saskatchewan Party allowing Stephen Harper to break his promise to Saskatchewan people? Why is it they're supporting a tax cut for Quebecers, but not a tax cut for Canadians? Why is it they won't stand in this Assembly and call on Saskatchewan MPs [Member of Parliament] to vote against this betrayal by the Conservative government?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Gantefer: — Madam Deputy Speaker, this opposition will stand proudly in this House and call the attention . . .

The Deputy Speaker: — Order. I ask all members to come to order. The minister was able to give his response. I'd ask now the member from Melfort the ability to place his question.

Mr. Gantefer: — Madam Deputy Speaker, this opposition will stand proudly in this House and hold the government to account for the betrayal they are perpetrating on this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Gantefer: — This government said they would cut property taxes after the Boughen Commission report. They got the report and they didn't cut the taxes. They said they would cut property taxes if they raised the PST [provincial sales tax], and then they just raised the PST and didn't cut property taxes. Then they say they were going to cut property taxes if they amalgamated schools. Well we got the school amalgamations with no cuts in property taxes. Madam Deputy Speaker, it's excuse after excuse after excuse by this government for breaking their promises and betraying this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — I was the minister of Education when we rejected the Boughen report, and I continue to reject it. We will not increase sales taxes to balance off against property taxes. That is why today we've got the lowest sales tax we've had in 25 years, thanks to this government.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — And let me say this, Madam Deputy Speaker, we made a commitment to 30 per cent of new, ongoing equalization money would go to cut property taxes. Even before we got that money, we changed the formula to protect farm families. Let me tell these members on the opposite side, Stephen Harper broke his promise to Saskatchewan people. This New Democratic government will keep its.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Business Competition

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Many of my constituents in the constituency of Indian Head are upset with this NDP government, but none more than Don Williams who is the co-owner of Mission Ridge ski hill. This ski hill is 100 per cent privately funded. In fact these people have taken out mortgages to put up a used chairlift on this ski hill.

In the meantime, Madam Deputy Speaker, this government has gone ahead and made a decision to compete directly against business owners in this province by putting \$900,000 into Blackstrap ski hill, Madam Deputy Speaker. Can the minister explain why he is competing against Saskatchewan business owners?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the simple answer is that we have a provincial park system and a couple of them include ski hills that we're responsible for, and we provide funding for that equipment. It's a part of providing winter recreation for people across Saskatchewan.

Now what really surprises me, Madam Speaker, is that member opposite knew that this issue has been there for a while, and he's now been prodded by his local constituent because he has not raised this issue when it's been here in this House. I have responded and provided that information. I'm very surprised that he now raises this in this context.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the real issues relate to what the federal government has done to Saskatchewan people. And I think that that member does a disservice to the whole of the province when he raises this issue in this context.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Madam Deputy Speaker, the disservice that has been done in this province is that NDP government that has awarded somebody for being charged with common assault under the Murdoch Carriere case, and that has dominated question period for a darn good reason, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Madam Deputy Speaker, these business owners simply want fairness. This ski resort has put up a used chair lift, and now they've been charged \$11,000 on PST. Don Williams is asking this government directly, should he just write the cheque to Mount Blackstrap instead of putting it into the provincial coffers? Because that's where it's going to compete against his own tax dollar. How is that fair? How can the minister justify that in Saskatchewan?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Madam Speaker, this member asks a question about the basic taxation that we provide in this province that provide for all of our services. And, Mr. Speaker, we use those funds appropriately. The minister is going to show the province tomorrow how that money is going to be spent right across the province.

Mr. Speaker, we will continue to work to make sure that businesses can operate in this province, that there's fair taxation, that the dollars are used for the responsibilities of this province. But, Mr. Speaker, I am totally disappointed in that member and those members opposite that they go on this type of question when we are dealing with the national issues around how Saskatchewan has been treated. And they don't even raise those issues here.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Indian Head-Milestone.

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. It's not only that this businessman has to compete against his own tax dollar. What really irates Mr. Williams is that when he called Blackstrap hill after this government has given them \$900,000, what did he find out when he called them? What did he find out on a voice mail?

Well this is what he found out — that Blackstrap was closed for a week to take the staff skiing on a vacation in Sunshine Village in Alberta. This ski hill opened in February. It is now March, and they've taken a week's holiday paid by this government from \$900,000. My question to the minister is: how much of the \$900,000 went to pay for their holiday at Sunshine Village?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Madam Speaker, the member should get his facts straight. And I'll say once again, as I've said for almost 12 years now, that unfortunately the research capacity in that backroom over there hasn't lived up to its responsibility. Even now when the member from Weyburn is no longer there, it's even gotten worse.

But, Madam Speaker, the issue here is exactly what I answered the reporters last week. The ski hill is not open on Monday, Tuesday normally. Last Wednesday there was a storm, and some of the members were caught in the mountains. They were closed on Wednesday. They were there Thursday and Friday, and that answer is what I gave to the press last week.

Madam Speaker, this member is raising these questions today because the owner of the Mission Ridge ski hill was very disappointed and told this member that he was not going to support him any more if he didn't raise it in the House.

Madam Speaker, I am totally disappointed that this particular issue is being brought and not being dealt with on the national level.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Cypress Hills.

Highway 32

Mr. Elhard: — Madam Deputy Speaker, today is a very memorable day in the province of Saskatchewan. For the first time ever there is a highway being named after a current elected official. I'm pleased to announce, Madam Speaker, that today Highway 32 from Leader to Swift Current is now known as Eldon Lautermilch way. Madam Speaker, surely the minister is overwhelmed by this latest honour . . .

The Deputy Speaker: — I call the member to order and would ask that he not refer to members sitting in the Assembly by their names. It's pretty loose for quotation unless the member has things that . . . Anyway as the Speaker, I'm asking him to refrain from doing that within the Assembly. Thank you.

Mr. Elhard: — Madam Deputy Speaker, the question really goes to the minister. How does he feel about this great and once in a lifetime honour that's been bestowed on him by the people of Saskatchewan? Madam Deputy Speaker, I present this picture for the minister himself.

The Deputy Speaker: — Order. I call the members to order. I would remind all members, I remind all members that exhibits are not allowed in the Assembly for presentation purposes or otherwise. I call the member to order. I think the member should go directly to his question within the bounds of what I've declared appropriate. Next question.

Mr. Elhard: — How does the minister feel about this great honour that's been bestowed on him?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Lautermilch: — Mr. Speaker, here's what I know, that this government is committed to improving this highway system. And we have shown that in the budgets that have been allocating more dollars — last year a record amount of money — into our highway system. We've just announced a 10-year, \$5 billion commitment, a long-term commitment to the highway system.

Now that member asks about naming and tagging titles. Well I want to tell that member that he is part of an administration that is led by someone who was part of a government under Grant Devine that was titled to be the most corrupt government in the history of Saskatchewan, in the history of this country. Mr. Speaker, now that's a title that the member from Swift Current holds, and that's a title that he might want to be proud of.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, if that member had any courage he'd stand up to his cousins in Ottawa who just took \$700 million out of the pockets of the families in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, that's his record.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Cypress Hills.

Mr. Elhard: — Well, Madam Deputy Speaker, I don't think the minister's going to be in any shape to come visit the highway. I was going to offer an invitation to him. I'd like to have him come and see his highway, and I'd like to extend that invitation to the Premier as well. But before the minister comes out, Madam Deputy Speaker, there's a couple of things that he should bring with him to facilitate a better overall experience.

First the minister should bring a map so that he can see the importance of this highway to the region it serves. Secondly the minister should bring a copy of the budget so that he can see how much royalty revenue is generated to the province's coffers from that region. And finally, Madam Deputy Speaker, a pair of orange rubber boots would help keep his feet dry from all the water in those potholes. And we can even arrange to get him a pair of those boots.

Madam Deputy Speaker, when does the minister plan to join me to tour his new highway?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Lautermilch: — Well, Mr. Speaker, here's what I'll commit to. I'll commit to joining that member and his leader in a debate on equalization, one which they hid from yesterday. Mr. Speaker, that's a substantive issue that's facing Saskatchewan today, a national government who gives hundreds of millions of dollars of Saskatchewan's people's royalty dollars to Quebec — to Quebec, Madam Deputy Speaker. That's the issue. And where was he yesterday?

This Leader of the Opposition can't even tell the media whether or not he would support the federal budget or whether he wouldn't. He won't tell them who bullied him from Stephen Harper's office. Deputy Speaker, that is the issue facing the people of Saskatchewan today. You've got a spineless opposition led by Stephen Harper in Ottawa, who will not stand up for the families they represent in that area of the province — in that area of the province and every other area that they represent.

Mr. Speaker, the people will see through them very, very clearly. I ask them today, will they join us in the debate on that issue?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[14:30]

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Cypress Hills.

Mr. Elhard: — Well, Madam Deputy Speaker, maybe I should take the minister's challenge for a debate on equalization.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Elhard: — Madam Deputy Speaker, Madam Deputy Speaker, well my colleagues have a better idea. I was going to say I take the offer if he would have the nerve to drive to Leader on Highway 32. I don't think he's willing to take my challenge, Madam Deputy Speaker, no more so than I should have to take

his.

Madam Deputy Speaker, having a highway named after you is a great privilege. Madam Deputy Speaker, this minister is in a whole new league, part of the greats. His counterparts include Mark Messier and Wayne Gretzky. But, Madam Deputy Speaker, they only received their honour after they retired which, Madam Deputy Speaker, is what the people of Saskatchewan must want of this minister. They simply want him retired. Madam Deputy Speaker, will the minister comply with the wishes of Saskatchewan's people? Will he take this honour and move aside so someone else can take over and get to fixing the highways in this province?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Lautermilch: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I will say to that member unequivocally that no one on this side will step aside for any of them, and I want to tell you why. Because we all remember — the people of Saskatchewan remember very well — when the Leader of the Saskatchewan Party was delivering liquor to cabinet ministers around this building, when they were selling off our highways equipment at 15 cents on the dollar, Madam Deputy Speaker, the memories run deep and they run hard. And we remember having to pay down debt. A billion dollars after a billion dollars after a billion dollars that was amassed by a right-wing government with no ideology other than to fill their own pockets and, Madam Deputy Speaker, that will never happen again. People know who these people are. They won't be forgotten.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Deputy Speaker: — Recognize the Minister of the Environment.

Funding for Environmental Stewardship

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. This morning the Premier and I were at the Saskatchewan Science Centre where we took a major step forward in fulfilling this government's commitment to protecting the environment and addressing the effects of climate change.

We in Saskatchewan have the privilege of living in one of the best places in the world. Our healthy environment and bountiful natural resources make life better for Saskatchewan families by creating jobs and economic growth and contributing to our social and physical well-being. It is no secret that we face some real challenges. Climate change and global warming, air and water pollution, finite supplies of non-renewable natural resources, each of these can and does threaten the health of our environment and the sustainability of our economy and of our society.

Our government is committed to taking action to deal with climate change and ensuring future generations enjoy the benefits of a clean and healthy environment. That is why today we announced almost \$5 million in funding for 20 innovative

organizations and projects. The projects that will receive funding will help us reduce our dependence on coal-fired electricity and conserve our water supplies. They will help communities rid themselves of hazardous household wastes and promote the consumption of Saskatchewan-grown organic foods.

These projects represent the wide range of work being done here in this province to protect our environment and build an economy that is both green and prosperous. They include rebate programs for customers who install solar water heating systems and replace old toilets with new water-efficient, low-flow models. They include support to over 200 communities to assist with municipal recycling systems.

They include a number of important projects in the area of ecotourism, public awareness, and education which will contribute to our collective understanding of our environment and the challenges we face in protecting and enhancing it — projects such as the Saskatchewan Science Centre's own *Wild Saskatchewan* exhibit that explores the importance of ecosystems and the implications of biodiversity loss.

It takes the commitment of everyone to address the issues we face as a result of climate change and the degradation of our natural environment. With this funding, we are delivering on our commitment as a government and we are supporting the work of many dedicated people, organizations, and communities across the province. The funding we announced today is just the start of our support for this work. In the coming weeks we will unveil our full green strategy and our long-term response to climate change.

The green strategy will strengthen the links between economic development, opportunities for environmental stewardship, and social well-being. It will recognize that a healthy, clean environment and a vibrant economy support the things we value such as schools, jobs, health care, and parks. I am looking forward to bringing you more information about our long-term plans in the days ahead. Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Martensville.

Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. While I appreciate the money that's being spent on environmental initiatives today — and these are steps in the right direction — but the question must be asked, why now at the end of a budget year on the eve of an election?

As the minister stated, the funding announced today is just the start of the government's support for this work, while the NDP has been in government for 16 years. So my question would be, where has this money been for the last 16 years, and why are we only starting now?

While we do appreciate this announcement, I do have concerns as this appears to be a year-end, one-off funding with no long-term plan or vision. The NDP is doing these things because it's the right thing to do, or because it's a politically advantageous thing to do. Is the funding here now because we

are in an election year and the people know the NDP's dismal environment record, so this government is trying to buy the votes of Saskatchewan voters?

Greenhouse gas emissions in Saskatchewan are the highest of any province or territory on a per GDP [gross domestic product] basis. Greenhouse gas emissions have grown more in this province since 1990 than every other province and territory. Where has this NDP government been for the last 16 years? Despite this funding announcement, it's easy to see that this NDP government has actually been a detriment to the state of the environment in our province.

Madam Deputy Speaker, I do look forward to the promised green plan from the NDP. Considering that they've had 16 years to prepare it, I'm sure it's going to be a good read.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 54 — The Labour Standards Amendment Act, 2007

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I move that Bill No. 54, The Labour Standards Amendment Act, 2007 be now introduced and read a first time.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Labour that Bill No. 54, The Labour Standards Amendment Act, 2007 be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Next sitting of the House.

The Deputy Speaker: — Next sitting of the House. I recognize the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Mr. Forbes: — Pursuant to a sessional order adopted by the Assembly on October 30, 2006, I hereby designate Bill No. 54, The Labour Standards Amendment Act, 2007 as a specified Bill subject to rules 31 to 33.

The Deputy Speaker: — At the request of the minister and pursuant to a sessional order adopted by this Assembly, Bill No. 54, The Labour Standards Amendment Act, 2007 is hereby designated as a specified Bill subject to rules 31 to 33.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Madam Deputy Speaker, on behalf of the government I'll be tabling responses to written questions no. 540 through 637 inclusive.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 52 — The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi de 1998 sur la faune

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise today to give second reading of The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007.

In Saskatchewan, we have the privilege of living in one of the most unique and naturally gifted places in the world. Our healthy environment and bountiful natural resources make life better for Saskatchewan families by creating jobs and economic growth and contributing to our social and physical well-being.

Our hunting and fishing opportunities are not only world-class, they are major contributors to Saskatchewan's economy. That is why it is so important to ensure that we are doing our utmost to protect our resources. Madam Deputy Speaker, we do that through laws, regulations, quotas, limits, licences, education, and enforcement. And thus, The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007 will clarify the rules that allow conservation officers to stop vehicles in order to carry out roadside inspections.

The amendments also draw a clear distinction between a power to inspect and a power to search. The proposed amendments repeal the current inspection and investigation provisions and replace them with provisions that improve the constitutional integrity of our legislation regarding the inspection and investigation of vehicles for compliance with environmental and natural resource laws.

Madam Deputy Speaker, along with protecting our environment and our resources, we are also committed to protecting constitutional rights. These amendments are a balance between those rights and resource protection. I now move second reading of The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister's moved second reading of Bill No. 52, The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007. I recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Gantefer: — Thank you very much, Madam Deputy Speaker. It's a pleasure to rise and speak briefly on Bill No. 52, An Act to amend The Wildlife Act, 1998.

Madam Deputy Speaker, the minister has correctly outlined that the wildlife resource and our natural resources in our province are very much a tremendous asset to both our citizens and to people who come to visit our province from many places in North America and indeed the world that enjoy the natural flora and fauna in our part of the world.

Madam Deputy Speaker, we also recognize that in order to protect these valuable resources, we need wildlife officers that are so important to make sure that the proper balance between use and enjoyment of our wildlife resources and sustainable development are also important. We must ensure that our wildlife officers are given all of the tools that they need to properly dispense their duties and I know that this Bill is intended to provide those tools to these wildlife officers in the discharge of their duty.

Madam Deputy Speaker, in order to have our critic have the opportunity to discuss this with the affected individuals, particularly wildlife officers in this province, at this stage — to allow that discussion to occur at this stage — I'd move to adjourn debate.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Melfort has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

Bill No. 53 — The Miscellaneous Environment Statutes (Inspections and Investigations) Amendment Act, 2007

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

Hon. Mr. Nilson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise today to give second reading to The Miscellaneous Environment Statutes (Inspections and Investigations) Amendment Act, 2007.

Madam Deputy Speaker, the proposed amendments are similar to those I described for The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007 in relation to the authority given to conservation officers to conduct roadside inspections. The Acts proposed for amendment in this Bill include The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994, The Forest Resources Management Act, and The Natural Resources Act. The amendments to The Wildlife Act are being advanced separately because of the need for a French version of that Bill.

I now move second reading of The Miscellaneous Environment Statutes (Inspections and Investigations) Amendment Act, 2007. Thank you.

[14:45]

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has moved second reading of Bill No. 53, The Miscellaneous Environment Statutes (Inspections and Investigations) Amendment Act, 2007. I recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Gantefer: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. It's a pleasure to rise and speak briefly on Bill No. 53, an Act to amend certain environmental statutes.

Madam Deputy Speaker, in looking at this Bill very briefly, it strikes me as it's very much as a housekeeping Bill that allows for standardization of terms and wording changes across a number of Bills. And it also would allow for additional

inspection powers for wildlife officers in various Bills.

We think this is important to make it consistent with the intent of this Bill and previous Bill introduced to make sure that our wildlife officers have all the tools they need, both in regulation and in statute. And I assume that this is the intent of this Bill as the minister has indicated. And in order for the discussion with wildlife officers to occur between ourselves, our environmental critic, and these officers, at this time, Madam Deputy Speaker, I move to adjourn debate.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Melfort has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 24

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Higgins that **Bill No. 24 — The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2006/Loi de 2006 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard** be now read a second time.]

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. Madam Deputy Speaker, I want to make a few comments in regards to Bill No. 24, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act.

As we look at the Act and the intent of the Act and the reason for the Bill, one has to question some of the motives the government has in bringing forward the changes in the Bill, which I think as we look at the Bill, Madam Deputy Speaker, are certainly changes that I think are appropriate. However in some cases, they're long overdue. In other cases, one has to question what consultation process was entered into before the changes to the legislation were brought forward.

And first of all, I would like to comment on the fact that the Bill gives the minister responsible for parks and regional parks the ability to ban alcohol in our provincial or regional parks. And, Madam Deputy Speaker, while I'm not an avid camper, I know that there are many people — not only in my constituency but across the province — that look forward to getting away from a hectic and busy week and going to one of our parks and enjoying just a weekend of leisure, in many cases taking their family members with them.

But the challenge, Madam Deputy Speaker, that these people face as they go out to the parks to enjoy our parks is the fact that there are individuals as well who unfortunately don't understand what it is to show respect to other campers. And when I talk about showing respect, I'm not talking about the

individuals who may have a drink or two around the campfire. I'm talking about individuals who abuse the privilege and then become obnoxious and very boisterous and destroy the tranquility in the campgrounds, and taking away from the abilities of families to enjoy those camps ... camping opportunities.

Madam Deputy Speaker, for example, I think of some of our provincial parks, and unfortunately I happen to live 30 minutes north of one of the most beautiful parks in the province, in Kenosee provincial park ... And while it's a beautiful park — it's got beautiful golf courses; it's got tremendous business opportunity and individuals who have established excellent businesses to provide services to people who would come out to the parks — the May long weekend has been one weekend that over the past number of years we've seen situations where individuals have come in and actually undertaken very destructive practices within the parks, destroying picnic tables, destroying camping areas.

And as a result of those situations, I believe, the park authorities have decided that maybe there is a place for limiting the possession of alcohol. And I agree with them, Madam Deputy Speaker. And over the last couple of years we've seen in the Moose Mountain Provincial Park that it actually has become a place where families can feel comfortable to come out on long weekends and again enjoy the amenities of the park while not having to have to put up with the obscene involvement of other campers who might feel it's their right to establish a campground and then abuse the use of alcohol.

So, Madam Deputy Speaker, it's certainly important for us to recognize that people have a right to enjoy camping without being interfered in by other individuals. The concern we do have is whether or not proper notice is made available, what consultation may have taken place with the business people within the parks. I know I've had calls from businessmen and women who felt that their businesses were ... or they'd lost business.

But at the same time, I guess my comment has always been as well, what have you done to ensure that people treat their time in the park and other people's time responsibly? And if you happen to have a business where you're selling liquor and alcohol, what have you done to ensure that people — if they are purchasing these products — are respecting the rights of other families to just enjoy a good time in the park?

So I think, Madam Deputy Speaker, this part of the Bill will be welcomed in many cases. It should create a better camping environment for families, and I think as people are aware of the fact that the parks have the ability to ban the possession of alcohol if people abuse their responsibilities, that may keep people from going in or carrying excessive amounts and becoming abusive in those situations. And people may begin to realize that everyone, and families in particular, have the right to enjoy a sound camping experience and have the right to be able to do it without obnoxious and abusive neighbours who may be in the camping site next to them.

So that, Madam Deputy Speaker, I think will be seen as a positive move. And I somehow suspect that people are more aware of the fact that we want to ensure a good family camping

experience, that in the long run people will begin to realize they have a responsibility as well to not abuse the alcohol in our campsites. And I think that, Madam Deputy Speaker, will be a positive move.

The other point in this piece of legislation, Madam Deputy Speaker, is the move for Liquor and Gaming to grant additional dollars to community-based organizations who raise funds, whether it's through bingos or whether it's through the break-opens or even raffles, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Madam Deputy Speaker, a number of years ago when this government moved into and allowed gambling in the province of Saskatchewan — and I remember even prior to the move to allow gambling — the current Premier, back in 1987 when there was some discussion about opening up gambling in the province, indicated that he was, and he said, and I quote from *Hansard*, September 21, 1987, "I am not particularly happy when we fund [our] valuable social programs on the funds of gambling." And that came from the current Premier of the province.

But since 1992 — and the Premier was a minister in the NDP government in '92 when gambling was allowed into the province — we have found, Madam Deputy Speaker, and I'm sure that all MLAs across this province have had complaints come into their offices from volunteer organizations who have raised monies in so many different ways to actually help fund volunteer organizations — whether it's your Scout club, whether it's a 4-H organization, whether it's a local church group raising funds to help someone in need. Madam Deputy Speaker, over the years many of these organizations have, since the advent of gambling and VLTs [video lottery terminal] across this province, have seen the resources or their opportunity to raise the funds they need diminish.

And, Madam Deputy Speaker, when the province moved forward with gambling and placing more VLTs into establishments across the province, they had kind of indicated that they would — number one, they would set aside money to address the issues of problem gambling. But they would also set aside funds to ensure that volunteer groups would be able to continue to sustain their ability to support many worthwhile endeavours within their communities or within the area that they represented. And it's been something like 12 to 14 years since gambling came into the province that, Madam Deputy Speaker, many of these organizations have been waiting for some funding to replace the funding that they have lost.

And I know, Madam Deputy Speaker, that when we talk about funding, I've had children that have been involved in many organizations that have used a means of ... whether it's bingos, working at bingos to raise money, whether it's for a ball team so that they could participate in out-of-province activities, whether it's ... Even our grade 12 classes over the years have raised funds for a grade 12 graduation trip, which I think, Madam Deputy Speaker, has been certainly welcomed in many cases because it's ... as some of the grade 12 classes I've talked to have said, it gave them a better opportunity to get to know their classmates through the 12 years, just by spending this meaningful weekend, whether it was at Edmonton or wherever they may have gone, rather than having an alcohol-related party after their graduation class.

But, Madam Deputy Speaker, one of the challenges everyone has found over the years is it's become more difficult to raise the funds. However I might add that even though it's more difficult, even though the province has reneged on its commitment to help fund or replace some of those dollars from gambling, Madam Deputy Speaker, I have found, Madam Deputy Speaker, that people across this province have tended to continue to support through their giving in so many different ways to assist others who have needs.

And I think, Madam Deputy Speaker, one of the prime ways we have seen Saskatchewan people reach into their pockets was witnessed about two weeks ago through the Telemiracle program. And I believe this year Telemiracle raised the highest amount of monies that it's ever raised, something like over \$5 million. And I would have to say to the people of Saskatchewan, well done, well done.

People across this province have realized that there are people with special needs, people that need the assistance, whether it's wheelchairs or whether it's special respiratory equipment or whatever the circumstances. And the people of Saskatchewan have realized, well here's a way that we can help people whether it's Telemiracle or even through our local organizations.

So, Madam Deputy Speaker, this Bill also does expand the funding of community-based or charitable organizations by providing more funding from liquor and gaming to assist them in that matter. And, Madam Deputy Speaker, I think in view of what the government had indicated back in 1991, it's certainly important that we finally move forward in that matter although it's unfortunate that we have to prey upon individuals who through gambling have created an awful delicate situation for their family members. And when I say that, Madam Deputy Speaker, we all have, and I'm sure all members have had family members who have called their offices because of the lack of the financial resources that have been wasted by another family member either at a VLT — whether wasted or lost — have been lost by a family member at a VLT machine or in a gambling facility.

So maybe we can feel better by sharing some of the resources that have been generated through gambling and putting them back into communities, giving them back to charitable organizations so that they can continue to provide the excellent support mechanisms in our communities to ensure that the Scout program or the cadet program can continue to move forward or that 4-H programs — which provide such a positive educational opportunity for young people — can be enhanced, Madam Deputy Speaker.

Or one other association that over the years has relied on local funding and local support is our agricultural societies. And, Madam Deputy Speaker, this last weekend the Moosomin Agricultural Society, in conjunction with the Fairmede Agricultural Society, was able to host a provincial association of agricultural societies and exhibitions as they gathered for their annual meeting. And it was certainly a pleasure for the group in Moosomin. And it was a pleasure for myself to join with the representatives from across the province for a wonderful luncheon, as well as just sitting down and talking to many agricultural society representatives as they gathered in

Moosomin and talked about the many fair days that they've had through the years and the different ways that they have continued to promote agriculture in the province of Saskatchewan.

[15:00]

And, Madam Deputy Speaker, what was also interesting is to note the number of communities or societies that have been around for periods of years. In fact there were a couple recognized on the weekend that had been in existence for more than 100 years. And that speaks loudly and speaks well of the volunteer people across our province — the many men and women who volunteer their time to organize these programs. And then to, on an annual basis, to ensure that they move forward very smoothly and are a means by which we can communicate in the agricultural community and to the larger urban community, the issues of agriculture and the importance that agricultural plays in our community.

And one of the things that SAASE [The Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions] had — and I guess they have had the last couple of years — is they've been creating an educational fund whereby young people can apply and receive funding towards furthering their education. And while I'm not exactly sure of the amount of money that's been created over the past number of years, I want to just mention that one gentleman who was very instrumental in our agricultural societies in the Moosomin and Fairmede area, Mr. Clark Lewis, had a scholarship named in his honour. And I think, Madam Deputy Speaker, that is certainly commendable, because Mr. Lewis over the years has been a very strong proponent — or was prior to his passing a couple of years ago — was a very strong proponent of the agriculture community in the province of Saskatchewan.

So, Madam Deputy Speaker, the two amendments that are before us, we trust that as the government moves forward that community-based organizations will indeed be able to provide some of the services that they've always looked forward to through the additional grant money that should be available as has been indicated in the legislation. And as well, we trust that people who are looking forward to enjoying a very wonderful and peaceful and enjoyable family camping opportunity, that, as a result of this legislation, that will be available to them. Having said that, Madam Deputy Speaker, we're more than prepared to let this move on to committee.

The Deputy Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the Minister of Liquor and Gaming that Bill No. 24, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2006 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Deputy Speaker: — To which committee shall this Bill be referred? I recognize the Minister of Liquor and Gaming.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — Madam Speaker, I move that Bill No. 24, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2006 be referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Liquor and Gaming that Bill No. 24, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2006 be referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried. This Bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Clerk: — Committee of Finance.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader. We've called Committee of Finance. Committee of Finance is called. I do now leave the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

The Deputy Chair: — We'll just pause for a moment while we wait for the officials to come in for Committee of Finance.

General Revenue Fund Supplementary Estimates — March Executive Council Vote 10

Subvote (EX01)

The Deputy Chair: — Members of the committee will come to order now. The business before the committee is the supplementary estimates for Executive Council. And the resolution before the committee is:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the following sum for Executive Council, \$263,000.

I recognize the Deputy Leader for the Official Opposition.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and good afternoon to you, Mr. Premier, and to your staff.

Mr. Premier there isn't a lot of change to Executive Council in the supplementary estimates, but I'm going to ask a few specific questions and what the document of course that I'm looking at is page 8 of the Supplementary Estimates. And the explanation given, Mr. Premier, is that for executive management and central services, there are two amounts of money that have been added to the totals of the previous budget that was delivered over a year ago, and that being for executive management, 132,000 additional dollars. Could you explain why that additional money was needed in executive management of vote no. 10?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, before I speak to the member's question, let me welcome to the Assembly, Ms. Bonita Cairns who is director of corporate services for

Executive Council, the one official who has joined us this afternoon to provide information if needed.

Mr. Speaker, the member asks very specifically about the \$132,000 amount. This was an amount of money resulting into a contract that Executive Council . . . or a project, Mr. Chair, that Executive Council entered into with ISC [Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan] and CIC [Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan] which is described as a citizen service improvement project.

And what we're doing here, Mr. Chair, is seeking ways to provide better access to public services — the public services of the province of Saskatchewan — to citizens of Saskatchewan to make those access points more citizen friendly as opposed to being government friendly. And we engaged in this work, as I say, with both CIC, utilizing the expertise of ISC, and Exec Council's share of the cost of this project \$132,000 in this budget year.

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Chair, thank you to the Premier for that answer. Mr. Premier, you mentioned that ISC was responsible for delivering this project and that there are additional costs. Could you indicate whether or not the project itself started before the fiscal year, and is this additional monies to a project that was already under way? Or was this a new project that was created after the fiscal year began?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, the member is correct. Or in fact, yes, what happened is the project started after the budget year started. We undertook this work after the last budget was delivered in the House, and therefore it becomes a supplementary estimate.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Premier, could you outline what circumstances necessitated the creation of a project in mid-year? You mentioned that there was some collaboration between two departments, etc. What was the need to actually begin this in mid-year rather than waiting until, for instance, the new fiscal budget which will be in a matter a few days?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, in fact the project began shortly after the budget was tabled last year. We could have waited until now to begin that project, but this project in my view was important to get under way. Building on the variety of approaches we've taken to try and improve citizen access to government services, our motivation is to ensure as best we can that the citizens of our province accessing government services whether it be through the Crowns or through executive government — and these range the whole, the whole gamut of land titles registries to vital statistics to applying and receiving a fishing licence to drivers' licences, all of that very practical day-to-day activity that government is engaged in with our citizens — to make that access simpler, to make it more convenient for the citizens as opposed to for government.

This seems to me a project that's . . . there's much work been done, but we wanted to focus on it. We believe that . . . let's get the work done. We've got a significant agency in ISC that can bring about some real expertise here. And so the project was initiated, not waiting for the extra year, or 10 or 11 or 12 months till now.

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Chair, then, a follow-up question. Mr. Premier, in light of the work that's being done, when do you anticipate that the project will be completed and that, as you've indicated, the public will be able to now access information easier? Is there a completion date that the project manager has given to you?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, we do not have a hard completion date. My sense is that completion will be a phased-in process. We're already making improvements. We've seen the tremendous improvements through ISC in terms of access to land titles registries and so on. It will be, I hope, a continuum of progress. So we haven't set a hard finish date for the work and it will be ongoing.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you for those answers, Mr. Premier. Mr. Premier, also in vote no. 10, the category identified as central services is being listed as requiring an additional \$131,000. And I note in the commentary in the same line it refers to accrued liability on leave entitlement. And I notice, Mr. Premier, also that the supplementary estimates that we dealt with last year at this time also indicated that there was a need to add additional monies for accrued liability on leave entitlements for that fiscal year. Could you explain to the people of Saskatchewan the process that is involved in leave entitlement, the number of people that are involved, and how the Government of Saskatchewan is now required to spend money for an accrued liability?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, the total amount here, to be very clear, is 131. Just to clear up one small item, 11,000 of that is as a result of the tentative agreement with SGEU [Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union]. So 11,000 is anticipated by Executive Council to be the costs for the new agreement. So on the accrued liabilities, the 120,000, this tells a very interesting, a very interesting story, Mr. Chair, both last year and this. This represents vacation time owing to employees of Executive Council and scheduled days off owing to Executive Council.

[15:30]

What I am in some ways proud to report is that we have a team of people who work in Executive Council, who have not taken many of their scheduled days off, have not in fact taken vacation time. And therefore it accrues, and we have to account for it. We have to account a dollar value for that in our estimates. And this is now two years running where many of the people in Executive Council simply are not taking the holidays that perhaps they should be taking or their scheduled days off. And so we end up at the end of the year having to account for this dollar value, and again this year it represents \$120,000 of accrued time off that we need to account for.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier and Mr. Chair. The number of people that are affected . . . And I know you've indicated of course that your explanation is that these are dedicated individuals who are working above and beyond and in fact are not taking holidays. And, Mr. Premier, I'm sure that you understand that when you talk to people in the HR [human resources] sector who give advice about people and about keeping a good work environment, that the one explanation that'll be given is that people should take holidays, that indeed

they deserve holidays. They deserve the opportunity to, you know, regroup and to rejuvenate. And I know, Mr. Premier, I think those were the words that you used when we talked about Family Day and the opportunity for people to have that kind of break.

Mr. Premier, my question is, how many people are affected by this 120,000 in terms of the number? And is this a trend that is escalating or is it declining?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, I was consulting with our official. We do not have here specific numbers of whose vacation time or whose SDOs [scheduled day off] are included here. We could get that although this may change. These numbers are put together in January in anticipation of supplementary estimates.

And we do know, and in fact I have encouraged in days of late, that before we get to the end of the fiscal year that some of those folks who do have holiday time banked or accruing, have SDOs, that they should try and utilize some of that, and some of that is happening.

And so when we finally total the books this year, the difference between January and now may show in fact a decrease here, but in January you have to predict where you're at. And that's where we were at and it shows 120. So it may change.

This, according to our official, is somewhat stable in terms of other years, last year and this, that we come to January and this kind of accrual has mounted up. Some of it may shrink as we get to the end of the year. I share the Deputy Leader of the Opposition's observation though, it is important that we try and encourage people who work so hard for the public service in many of our departments to exercise those opportunities to take holidays and take their SDOs because a rested person is contributing even more than someone who's really been worn by the work.

So in direct answer to the member's question, this is about par. In fact this number may come down once we finish the books this year.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Chair, in light of the fact that the number . . . and it's difficult to tell from the supplementary estimates of a year ago because at that time the executive management was looking at a \$290,000 increase for . . . and it had about three or four components to it, so it's difficult to tell. But if your official is indicating that that degree of leave entitlement is in that 100 to \$120,000 per year, is that something that you are prepared to build into the estimates for the next fiscal year knowing full well that you will have approximately that amount of money? Or is this a circumstance that is always left until January so that then you can ask for supplementary estimates?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Our official explains to me — and I'll try and explain to the members of the House — that in many, many years when we do the estimate in January and we finally come to the year-end, the department's budget is able to absorb it. This has not been the case in the past year and two years on this liability. And I believe the explanation for the last year is we dedicated some significant new resources from Executive

Council to rebuilding our government website, again another mechanism by which we believe we're providing better citizen access to government.

And so this year within the existing budget there wasn't the capacity to absorb it. As I say it may not be 120, but at that point in time the sense was that wouldn't be available to budget. We needed to come to the legislature and seek the legislature's approval for this expenditure.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Premier, also in the Supplementary Estimates . . . we'll move to a different topic on page number 5. Besides the two amounts that are listed in Supplementary Estimates that we've just discussed — the 132,000 for executive management and the 131,000 for central services, which makes up the total of 263,000 as the Chair has indicated — I also note that there is a column entitled not only March supplementary of 263,000 for Executive Council, but there is also a column that indicates March adjustments estimated for '06-07. And for '06-07 it indicates that your department, the Executive Council, will require an additional \$142,000.

So could you explain to us and to the people of Saskatchewan why this amount is not an expenditure under the March supplementaries. Is this a statutory amount? Why is your department requiring an additional \$142,000 that's not listed in supplementary estimates?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, this is a statutory funding. It relates to the funding of ministers — I haven't got the whole list in front of me — ministers, legislative secretaries, and so on. It is statutory and therefore automatically comes into the budget document.

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Premier, to you or to your official. Where will that amount of \$142,000 be described in terms of the budget document that we were presented with a year ago, or the supplementary estimate? I mean, that's the only place that I noticed it was in the column on page 5. I do not see any other explanation as to where the \$142,000 is being described as a statutory vote.

And I know that in many departments there are statutory votes, and they appear in the estimates; yet this one did not. So that's my question, Mr. Premier, as to why that does not show up somewhere in the supplementary estimates or for that matter within the budget that was delivered back a year ago?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Now I think, Mr. Chair, I understand this. And I guess I bear some responsibility for it as Premier.

The department traditionally has budgeted a fixed amount for the costs of cabinet ministers, legislative secretaries, and so on. On any given year the cabinet may be smaller or larger. There may be a legislative secretary at work or there may not be a legislative secretary at work. And so the budgeting process is very difficult because it is difficult, I understand that, to guess the mind of the Premier in making some of these appointments.

And so what the department traditionally has done is set the base amount, understanding that if for instance a legislative secretary is appointed to do work, that it will simply be covered

by statutory expense and will appear in this fashion.

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Premier, maybe your official could clarify. In the budget document that includes all of the expenditures for Executive Council — and with capital I understand that there are about seven estimates, series of votes — I do not see a statutory amount unless I'm misreading this, other than under vote no. (EX06).

So is that what your official is indicating, that the amount that was described in vote (EX06) of \$690,000 is in fact going to be increased by \$142,000? Is that where the additional dollars will be spent?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, that is correct. The 690 is statutory; the 140 is added thereon.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier. Then, Mr. Premier, I'm wondering, for better understanding of people outside of the House, when they see supplementary estimates and they see this document . . . Would it not be better for us in this Assembly to receive an amended statutory vote (EX06) that would say in fact your estimate, your best guess at this moment, is that \$142,000 is actually needed. Because as your explanation is of course, your request of \$690,000 was a best guess and therefore now it's been adjusted.

Because if those questions that I'm asking are not on the record, I dare say that there would not be too many people who would understand where \$142,000 was being spent. Is that something that can improve the documents that we receive?

[15:45]

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, our official informs me that the 690 figure in fact has been a consistent figure now over a number of years, and that included in this 140 then will be the annual increases that have accrued over this period of time.

Size of cabinet has not changed, but there have been increases as all members will be aware and the public are aware. And over this period of time we have been very well served by a number of legislative secretaries in a variety of public policy areas. And so it is not in essence 20 over 1, but a 20 over a number of years now because they've kept the 690 figure consistent for a number of years.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier. I'll just make a comment. As I said before, I think the 690 then is maybe not an accurate figure. If each and every year now we're going to be adjusting it by 120 or \$125,000, then maybe for the upcoming budget 690 isn't accurate and maybe it has to be amended.

Mr. Premier, a couple of final questions. On page 5 of the supplementary documents, Executive Council estimates now with the additional 263,000, the additional 142,000, the total amount that is required for Executive Council is \$9.314 million. That's what I'm seeing in the supplementary.

Mr. Premier, the estimates for '05-06 . . . And I'm looking at the budget document that was distributed about a year ago. The budget document indicated that the estimate for '05-06 was 8.303 million, and now we've moved to the point where your

expenditures for Executive Council are 9.314 million. That's an increase in estimate of '05-06 to now your projected costs for '06-07 to be \$1 million more. That's well over a 12 per cent increase in Executive Council.

And I dare say, Mr. Premier, that when I looked at all of the other departments, Health included, I don't believe there's any other department that has been increased by 12 per cent, estimate of '05-06 to estimate of what we will see by March 31, '07. That is pretty significant.

And I'm wondering, Mr. Premier, if you could explain why the Executive Council budget required such a significant increase of over \$1 million on an \$8 million expenditure to be where you are today, which is requesting that this Assembly pass \$9.314 million as an additional requirement for supplementary estimates for Executive Council? It just seems that the expenditures in Executive Council have skyrocketed.

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, the change in Executive Council spending has been created by several issues. The largest of them actually is the change in the class plan that has affected the employees of Executive Council. And so with the new class plan that meant changes in classifications, made increased costs, increased benefits to people whose class plans were amended. And that according to our official today is the largest chunk of the increase.

We've also had an increase in accommodation costs that we pay to SPMC [Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation] ... or SPM [Saskatchewan Property Management] of about \$100,000 in that. There's been, well a little reduction in House business. We've held the members of Executive Council the same, although the member makes an interesting point about perhaps that number should be amended given that we've run it for several years.

There has been some increase in communications, gone from 1.5 to 1.8, so a \$300,000 increase there. I think that is in some ways explainable simply by the cost of communications. And within that, our official reminds me, that 100,000 was expended for the new website development process.

And in my own office there has been an increase of 24 and 32, about 50 to \$60,000.

Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Premier, this in fact may be my final question. In light of your explanation about the additional requirement of \$1 million, you've indicated that 100,000 ... your officials indicated 100,000 was the actual cost of establishing a new website. Are there costs that are included in that additional \$1 million for this year that will not be required next year? And in fact will we be seeing significant reductions in some of these categories, based on the fact that I notice that your full-time equivalent positions did not change? So it's not like there's been a significant increase in the numbers of people. You've pointed out that, you know, reclassification took place. That's already there.

So, Mr. Premier, do you anticipate that there will be reductions in any of the votes for the upcoming budget?

Hon. Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Chair, we do not anticipate

significant, if any, reduction. Obviously the \$100,000 portion for website development, that will be expended out.

But as our director of corporate services reminds me, with performance plans, with a new SGEU contract, with the unfolding of the class plan, with not likely to diminish inflation in communications cost and so on, that we don't anticipate any significant reductions. I may say, we may not anticipate the same level of increase because some of this was one time and we wouldn't be doing that again. But it's not likely we'll see a decrease.

Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Premier, for those responses. And I want to thank you and your officials for ... your official — singular — for answering the questions that I have put forward today.

The Deputy Chair: — Members of the committee, we'll deal with first the motion and then the resolution.

The motion before the committee is Executive Council vote 10, central management and services (EX01) for \$263,000. Is it the pleasure of the committee to approve that motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — That's carried. Now we'll turn to the resolution. The resolution in this case is very similar to the motion:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the following sum for Executive Council, \$263,000.

Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the resolution?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — That is carried.

[Vote 10 agreed to.]

The Deputy Chair: — Members, we'll now go to the supplementary estimates, the General Revenue Fund, and the motion from the Minister of Finance. And I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Motions for Supply

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Chair. I move motion no. 1:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007, the sum of \$191,428,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

The Deputy Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved the following motion:

Resolved that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of

the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007, the sum of \$191,428,000 be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

Is the committee ready for the vote on that motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Deputy Chair: — And so I put this motion before the committee. Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — That is carried. So I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chair. I would move that the committee now rise and that the Chair report the committee has agreed to a certain resolution and ask for leave to sit again.

The Deputy Chair: — The Minister of Finance has moved this motion and asked for leave for the committee to sit again. Is it the pleasure of the committee to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — That is carried.

[The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.]

FIRST AND SECOND READING OF RESOLUTIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of committees.

Mr. Prebble: — Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. The Committee of Finance has agreed to a certain resolution, has instructed me to report the same, and to ask for leave to sit again.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the resolution be read the first time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I would move that the resolution be now read a first and second time.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Clerk Assistant: — First and second reading of this resolution.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the committee sit again? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Later this day, Madam Deputy Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — Later this day. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

APPROPRIATION BILL

Bill No. 55 — The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 1)

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, by leave of the Assembly, I move that Bill No. 55, The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 1) be now introduced and read for the first time.

The Deputy Speaker: — Is leave of the Assembly granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

Clerk Assistant: — First reading of this Bill.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Madam Deputy Speaker, by leave of the Assembly and under rule 69(2), I move the Bill be now read a second and third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — Is leave of the Assembly granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Granted. Moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 55, The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 1) be now read a second time and third time.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

Clerk Assistant: — Second and third reading of this Bill.

The Deputy Speaker: — We are awaiting the arrival of the Administrator, and so we'll have a short recess until the Administrator arrives, at this time.

[16:00]

ROYAL ASSENT

[At 16:19 His Honour the Administrator entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the throne, and gave Royal Assent to the following Bills.]

His Honour: — Pray be seated.

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

Clerk: — Your Honour, the Bills are as follows:

- Bill No. 20 - The Gunshot and Stab Wounds Mandatory Reporting Act
- Bill No. 12 - The Planning and Development Act, 2006
- Bill No. 5 - The Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Act, 2006
- Bill No. 33 - The Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology Amendment Act, 2006
- Bill No. 7 - The Public Health Amendment Act, 2006
- Bill No. 11 - The International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act/Loi sur les garanties internationales portant sur des matériels d'équipement aéronautiques mobiles
- Bill No. 18 - The Court Security Act
- Bill No. 22 - The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2006
- Bill No. 27 - The Film Employment Tax Credit Amendment Act, 2006
- Bill No. 25 - The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, 2006/Loi de 2006 sur l'Assemblée législative et le Conseil exécutif
- Bill No. 26 - The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Consequential Amendments Act, 2006
- Bill No. 30 - The Land Surveyors and Professional Surveyors Amendment Act, 2006

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

The Deputy Speaker: — May it please Your Honour, this Legislative Assembly has accorded the supplies required to enable the government to defray the expenses of the public service.

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

- Bill No. 55 - The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 1)

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

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

[His Honour retired from the Chamber at 16:22.]

The Deputy Speaker: — Why is the member on his feet?

Mr. Trew: — Madam Speaker, I request leave to introduce a guest.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member for Regina Coronation Park has asked for leave to introduce a guest. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. Trew: — I thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank all hon. members. No surprise, in your gallery, Madam Speaker, we have a friend of many but certainly a friend of the Legislative Assembly in the name of Grant Whitmore who served in this legislature from 1991 to 1999, first representing the constituency of Biggar and then the second term, after redistribution of the boundaries, represented the constituency called Saskatoon Northwest. I ask all members to join me in welcoming back to the Legislative Assembly a friend of ours, Grant Whitmore. Welcome back.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Madam Deputy Speaker, I move this House do now adjourn.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried. This House does now stand adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 16:24.]

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GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. Lorne Calvert
Premier

Hon. Graham Addley
Minister of Healthy Living Services
Minister Responsible for Seniors

Hon. Pat Atkinson
Minister of Advanced Education and Employment
Minister Responsible for Immigration
Minister Responsible for the Public
Service Commission

Hon. Joan Beatty
Minister of Northern Affairs
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Buckley Belanger
Minister of Community Resources
Minister Responsible for Disability Issues

Hon. Eric Cline
Minister of Industry and Resources
Minister Responsible for Investment
Saskatchewan Inc.
Minister Responsible for Information Services
Corporation of Saskatchewan

Hon. David Forbes
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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation

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Provincial Secretary
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Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Government Insurance

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Minister Responsible for Liquor and
Gaming Authority
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Minister Responsible for
SaskEnergy Incorporated

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen
Minister of Government Relations

Hon. Mark Wartman
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