

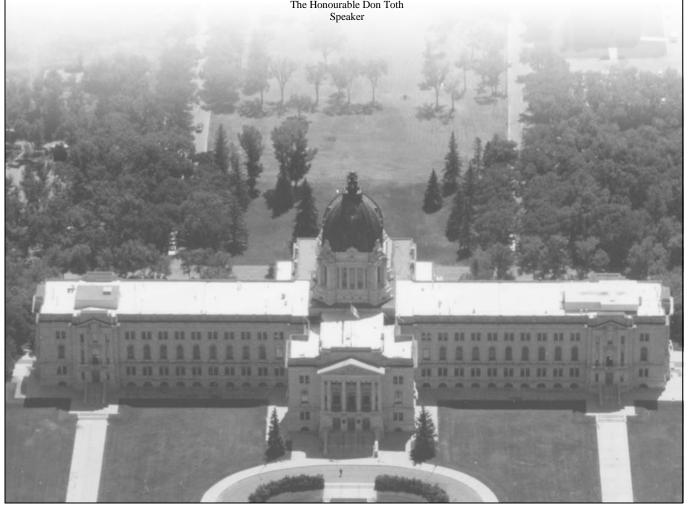
FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD)
Published under the authority of
The Honourable Don Toth



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. Don Toth Premier — Hon. Brad Wall Leader of the Opposition — Lorne Calvert

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
Allchurch, Denis	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Atkinson, Pat	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Belanger, Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, Hon. Bob	SP	Melville-Saltcoats
Boyd, Hon. Bill	SP	Kindersley
Bradshaw, Fred	SP	Carrot River Valley
Brkich, Greg	SP	Arm River-Watrous
Broten, Cam	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Calvert, Lorne	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Chisholm, Michael	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
D'Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Hon. Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Furber, Darcy	NDP	Prince Albert Northcote
Gantefoer, Hon. Rod	SP	Melfort
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harper, Ron	NDP	Regina Northeast
Harrison, Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Hon. Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Higgins, Deb	NDP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Hutchinson, Hon. Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, Yogi	SP	Wood River
Iwanchuk, Andy	NDP	Saskatoon Fairview
Junor, Judy	NDP SP	Saskatoon Eastview
Kirsch, Delbert Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP SP	Batoche
	SP SP	Canora-Pelly Saskatoon Northwest
LeClerc, Serge McCall, Warren	SP NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Michelson, Warren	SP SP	Moose Jaw North
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Morin, Sandra	NDP	Regina Walsh Acres
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Quennell, Frank	NDP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Reiter, Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Schriemer, Joceline	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Stewart, Hon. Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Taylor, Len	NDP	The Battlefords
Tell, Hon. Christine	SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Toth, Hon. Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
	NDP	Regina Dewdney
Yates, Kevin	NDI	Regina Dewaney

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN April 30, 2008

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Wall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Luciano de Crescenzo, an Italian writer, a film actor, director, and engineer once said, "We are all like one-winged angels. It is only when we help each other that we can fly."

Today, to you and through you to all members of this Assembly, and indeed through the Assembly to the province of Saskatchewan, it's a pleasure to recognize still more volunteers in our province, Mr. Speaker, who have joined us today, who have helped Saskatchewan fly; who represent every corner of the province; who have been involved in every conceivable facet of life in Saskatchewan; who have given of themselves, given of their time and of their talent without expecting anything in return.

They are from rural Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker; they are from urban Saskatchewan. And as is the case every year since 1995 when the Volunteer Medal was established, we this morning — together with yourself and the Leader of the Opposition and the MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] that represent these fine individuals — we had the chance to celebrate their contributions and their achievement.

And, Mr. Speaker, those members who have been here for some time will know that there are certain things that characterize the ceremony. There is the citations that are read. There's the formality of the event. His Honour did a great job in his work in presenting the medals and giving some address.

However, Mr. Speaker, there is one other thing that was the same as well as every other Volunteer Medal ceremony that I have witnessed, and that is the fact that all the recipients are far too modest — are far too willing to defer to their family, to friends, to others, to other recipients, as the ones that are actually deserving of recognition — and that's what makes them so special.

So, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Government of Saskatchewan, on behalf of the people of the province, it's a pleasure today to welcome all of them to their Legislative Assembly. And I know each MLA will have a chance to make introductions. And the Leader of the Opposition, I believe, also has some words of welcome. Welcome to all of you to your Legislative Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, of all of the many and varied activities which happen within the walls of

this Chamber and happen within the corridors of Government House, it seems to me that the recognition of the volunteers and the presentation of the Volunteer Medals perhaps more than any other event typifies and represents the very soul of our province.

We are, Mr. Speaker, a distinct people. We are a people who volunteer more than any other Canadians. We are a people who care, who care about our families and our neighbours and care about our communities. And the quality of life in our province is much, much enhanced by our volunteers.

And so in welcoming those who have received the Volunteer Medal today, I want to say those of you who have received the medal in many ways represent the very soul of the province of Saskatchewan. And hearing as we did this morning your record of service and accomplishment, it strikes me that you each must have adopted the philosophy of Edward Everett Hale, who said of himself:

I am only one, but I'm one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.

Because of what you have done, our communities are safer places, immigrants and newcomers have been welcomed, and human rights defended. The history of our community has been told. The fabric of arts and education in our province has been enhanced. What you have done is to strengthen your community, preserve our heritage, and stand for a future for those who are disabled among us. And so we thank you and we honour you.

Now I just want to say this, Mr. Speaker. In 1995 when the Volunteer Medal was created, it was not created to recognize retirement. As Dianne Wilson said in her response to your toast, Mr. Speaker, this is an event to note a milestone on your journey of service. So continued happiness in your service.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to introduce Mr. Eric Antonini from the constituency of Saskatoon Nutana, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Joining him is Norma Antonini, his life's partner, who is a volunteer extraordinaire herself, having been recognized by the city of Saskatoon during our city's centenary. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Antonini along with his life's partner, Norma Antonini.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to introduce Mrs. Anita Bella from the constituency of Melville-Saltcoats, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. I would ask everyone to show

our appreciation today.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Toth: — Members, it is my privilege to introduce Mrs. Margaret Debenham from the constituency of Moosomin, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Welcome, Margaret.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Morin: — Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to introduce Ms. Barbara Dedi from the constituency of Regina Walsh Acres, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Congratulations.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert Northcote.

Mr. Furber: — Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to introduce Mr. Lyle Karasiuk from the constituency of Prince Albert Northcote, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Congratulations, Lyle.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Cannington.

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege to introduce to you Mr. Kenneth Miller from the constituency of Cannington and the town of Redvers, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Joining him today on the floor is his wife and friends in the west gallery.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Meewasin.

Mr. Quennell: — Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to introduce Mr. Rocky Rochelle from the constituency of Saskatoon Meewasin, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Mr. Rochelle is never home when I knock on his door and now I know why.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Mr. Speaker, it's my privilege to introduce Ms. Dianne Wilson from the constituency of Saskatoon Nutana, who today received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. Congratulations, Dianne.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Prince Albert

Carlton.

Hon. Mr. Hickie: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well to you and through you, of course, to all members of the Legislative Assembly, I too want to recognize Mr. Lyle Karasiuk who in fact is a constituent of Mr. Furber's from P.A. [Prince Albert] Northcote.

But he works in my constituency as an advanced care paramedic and he's taking on a profession that I started after high school as well. I worked for Parkland Ambulance for three years. And Mr. Karasiuk does numerous things in my community, volunteering especially to the Victoria Hospital Foundation. I want to recognize Mr. Karasiuk as well.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Estevan.

Ms. Eagles: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the member from Weyburn-Big Muddy I would like to introduce to you and through to all members of this honoured Assembly three students from the Piapot urban adult education class in Weyburn. They are seated in the west gallery — if you would just give us a wave — and they are accompanied by their teachers, Bev Kulach and Carole Olson. I ask all members to join me in welcoming them to this Assembly. Thank you.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to join with the member from Estevan in welcoming our guests from the Piapot urban education program.

It's an interesting partnership, Mr. Speaker, that sees its physical location placed just down the block from where my constituency office is, so I've had the opportunity to visit a bit with Bev Kulach, Carole Olson, Heather Wesaquate, Michelle Thomson, Olivia Netowayasin. And they've got good representation throughout Treaty 4 — I know that for sure, Mr. Speaker — with ties to Carry The Kettle and Yellow Quill and certainly Piapot.

I too would like to join with the member in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Southeast.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, seated in the far corner of your gallery is Phil Strenger, who is a friend of mine and was a candidate for the Saskatchewan Party in the 2003 election and a very hard-working volunteer in the 2007 election. Mr. Speaker, I advise you that he had a 1928 Essex automobile that had just the right sized roof for a large campaign sign and he put it to very good use. And I want to welcome him to the legislature and say there are many more elections that we need to win yet.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Last Mountain-Touchwood.

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is someone seated in your gallery that is known to many members in this Assembly, Mr. Fred Heron and his wife Joan. Fred is certainly known for his long work with the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation.

I didn't know him at the time. We hadn't met when he was involved with that organization but I since that time have met both Fred and Joan. They are good friends of my brother-in-law and sister-in-law. I see them sitting in the gallery this afternoon and I would like to welcome them to this Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the member in welcoming Fred and Joan Heron to the Legislative Assembly. They are no strangers to this Assembly, given that Fred at one time was the general secretary for the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. I know that he is usually involved now with superannuated teachers and they are most appreciative of his ability to figure out pensions and to advocate for pensions for not only teachers, but all citizens.

So I join the member and would ask all members of the Assembly to please welcome Joan Heron and Fred Heron.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Toth: — And members, it's my privilege as well to introduce guests who have joined us. They're seated in the Speaker's gallery. We have Mr. Lepp, Sharon Barbour and her daughter Sarah, and Marla Toth and her children, Samuel and Julia. They're from the People's Church in Kipling, the beginner class, and they've come to observe how their Assembly operates. And I want members to extend a warm welcome to our guests.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

PRESENTING PETITIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's with a great deal of pleasure I stand and present a petition on behalf of the residents of Moose Jaw and surrounding area, that their hope to improve health care delivery and reduce wait times for surgery in Five Hills. And the petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to take the necessary steps to provide funding for the expansion and renovation of the Moose Jaw Union Hospital.

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

Mr. Speaker, I so present on behalf of my constituents.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present petitions of those people who are opposed to the government's Bill 5 and Bill 6, the essential services Act and The Trade Union Act respectively, and the petition reads as follows:

We respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan urge the new government to withdraw both Bills and hold broad public consultations about labour relations in the province.

And as duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

And the petitions are signed by residents of Meadow Lake, Rapid View, Makwa, Jansen, Watson, and Englefeld. Thank you.

[13:45]

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition in support of affordable housing in Saskatchewan, which is a major concern about the barriers that many people face in this province. I'll read the prayer:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to ensure that the task force on housing affordability hold open public consultations for all Saskatchewan citizens.

I do so present. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have a number of petitions regarding support for Station 20. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to immediately restore funding to the Station 20 project.

And once again the majority of the signators are from the core neighbourhood of Saskatoon in Riversdale. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Eastview.

Ms. Junor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I have a petition against means testing for the seniors' drug plan. Starting July 1, the Saskatchewan Party will take away prescription drug benefits from thousands of Saskatchewan seniors, moving to an income testing method which in general means dollars are spent on administration and bureaucracy instead of helping people. The petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to reverse its decision to means test seniors and ensure that all seniors continue to have access to affordable prescription drugs.

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

These signatures are mostly from Eastview, but some from right outside the area as well.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from The Battlefords.

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased today to present a petition in support of a plan to address school closures. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners, all of whom come from the constituency of The Battlefords, call upon:

... the Hon. Legislative Assembly to cause the government to develop, announce, and implement a plan to address school closures.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Members, if I could ask your indulgence for leave for further introduction of guests.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Hon. Mr. Toth: — I neglected earlier — and my apologies — but Mrs. Debenham also had family here. Her son Larry and his wife Jill and her daughter Laurie and her husband Colin are sitting in the west gallery. And I'd like members to welcome them as well.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

National Volunteer Week

Ms. Morin: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is most fitting that I rise today to recognize National Volunteer Week. This week provides a fitting moment to acknowledge the

countless efforts of dedicated, citizen-minded people who make Saskatchewan a better place. This is also a week when numerous charities and not-for-profit organizations across the province and Canada pause to recognize the central role of volunteers.

The National Volunteer Week campaign theme for this year is, Volunteers. From Compassion to Action. The theme is familiar to those of us whose family, friends, and neighbours benefit from the many volunteers in our communities that demonstrate the compassion for the well-being of others, the environment, and communities by taking on an active role as an individual or part of an informal group, organized charity, or non-profit organization.

Volunteers respond to genuine needs of our communities. Through the efforts of individuals such as Barb Dedi, Volunteer Medal recipient and a constituent of Regina Walsh Acres, who's dedicated herself to fostering a respectful community, we are mindful that volunteer efforts are vital to ensuring all people live in dignity and get the help they need.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all members to join me in celebrating National Volunteer Week, celebrating the compassionate spirit that volunteers bring to our province. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Qu'Appelle Valley.

Documents for Provincial Archives

Ms. Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A historical archive is one of the greatest gifts we can give our future generations of Saskatchewan. On my own kitchen wall I have painted, Touch the Past and Embrace the Future. Knowing where we have been helps us build for the future, which is why when I worked in the provincial archives as a university student, I found it to be a very rewarding experience.

But I have great concerns today, Mr. Speaker, about the privacy of Saskatchewan citizens. Private, personal correspondence they sent to the former NDP [New Democratic Party] cabinet ministers and that should now be in the provincial archives, but, Mr. Speaker, we have learned in recent days that this is not the case. Some former NDP cabinet ministers have not only had those letters — written in confidence — in their possession; at least one has used it for political gain. So much for confidentiality.

These former NDP cabinet ministers are also breaking the law. They do not know whose letters those are, Mr. Speaker. They act as custodians of the material they receive while in office. Ministerial correspondence belongs to the Crown. Those former NDP ministers are required by law to submit those private, confidential letters to the provincial archives. Much of those, Mr. Speaker, including several members sitting in the opposite of the House today, have not done so. They are breaking the law. Thank you very much.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Keepers of the Land

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to do profiles of northern Saskatchewan's keepers of the land, also known as northern fishers and trappers. Trappers are the conscience of the land and I want to highlight their lives and stories. Today I want to profile one such trapper and fisherman from Buffalo Narrows — Leon McCallum.

Mr. Speaker, Leon started trapping in 1951 when he was 14 years old. Leon began trapping after he completed his grade 9 at the residential school in Ile-a-la-Crosse and since this was the highest grade he could complete there, his parents removed him from school to begin earning a living off the land.

The amazing part of Leon's story is that his mother, Philomene, taught him how to trap while his dad, Pierre, taught his younger brother Gabe in a totally different area. This is how the McCallum family survived and thrived in those early years.

Leon worked very hard over the years raising his family and others through trapping and fishing, and finally in 1965 he moved to a different type of living by becoming a successful carpenter/contractor.

Leon continues to respect the land and continues to trap. Leon has not forgotten his roots or his history and continues to fight for respect as a trapper and a fisherman. As Leon says:

Governments should provide training and support dollars to not only get younger trappers involved, but to preserve this way of life. We need to respect fishing and trapping much more and I tire of trappers losing their trap lines through clear cutting by forestry companies. All we get from the process is a simple letter where they plan to cut and that we have no choice. This is not what is meant by duty to consult — it seems everybody is ignoring trappers and fishermen.

Mr. Speaker, all of us in this Assembly need to listen to the words of Leon McCallum, a proud trapper and fisherman from northern Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina South.

Dancing with Regina's Stars

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was my great pleasure to be a participant in the Dancing with Regina's Stars event that was held at Conexus Arts Centre on Saturday.

Using the well-known television show as a template, six very accomplished instructors from the Regina Ballroom Dancing Club were paired with six beginners, including RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] Chief Superintendent Pierre Ménard, Olympic curling champion Jan Betker, Saskatchewan Express founder Carol Gay Bell, CTV's [Canadian Television Network] personalities Carla Beynon and Lee Jones, and also myself.

All the teams worked very hard to put on an entertaining show and the approximately 1,000 people who came to see the results had a great time watching the dancing and listening to singing sensation and *Canadian Idol* finalist Matt Rapley.

A large number of volunteers and corporate sponsors ensured the success of this wonderful event and the proceeds were donated to worthy charities selected by the rookie dancers. My choice was the autism research centre. Congratulations to everyone who was involved, and my personal thanks to Ms. Karen Studlin and Mr. Roger Ambridge, my very courageous and patient dance partners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

Moose Jaw School Participates in Jump Rope for Heart

Ms. Higgins: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, recently Sunningdale School in Moose Jaw participated in the Jump Rope for Heart program through the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan. The program teaches the value of physical activity and healthy lifestyles with the knowledge that children who make physical activity a part of each day tend to stay active throughout their lives. Jump Rope for Heart offered both classroom learning and physical activity ending with a jump-off event.

The children participating in the event were in grades 1 to 4, and the students were sent home with pledge forms to raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Grade 4 student Cane Fritzler said, "We need to raise lots of money to stop heart disease." The exact total raised by the school will be announced at a later date. But as important as the money raised is, the promotion of fitness for the students and their families is equally important.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and members of the House join with me in congratulating the students of Sunningdale School — hard time speaking today — and the event organizer, teacher Judy Quon, for participating in such a worthy activity. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Biggar.

Silver Ring Ceremony

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On April 12 my family and I had the opportunity and honour of attending the 2008 silver ring ceremony program for the graduating students of the SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology] forest ecosystem technology and integrated resource management programs. The Canadian Institute of Forestry is the proud sponsor of the ring ceremony.

The Canadian Institute of Forestry has been the national voice of forest practitioners since 1908. Their mission is to advance the stewardship of Canada's forest resources, providing national leadership in forestry, promote competence among forestry professionals, and foster public awareness of Canadian and

international forestry issues.

The CIF/IFC [Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada] Gold Medal Award is awarded each year to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, citizenship, sports, and scholarly abilities. This year the faculty of SIAST selected Rebecca West as the student who best portrayed those characteristics.

Toast to the students from the faculty was given by Dr. Hamilton Greenwood, program head, SIAST natural resource technology programs. He gave a very inspirational toast, speaking with optimism about the bright future for the grads and the great opportunity they have as individuals to make changes in the future.

I am very proud to say among the integrated resource management graduating class is my daughter Lacey. I wish the very best for the class of 2008 and look forward to their contribution in Saskatchewan in the coming years.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Opposition to Bill 5

Mr. Calvert: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Monday of this week, Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to attend the provincial convention of the Service Employees International Union. There were people there from my own constituency of Riversdale, but obviously health workers from across the province. SEIU [Service Employees International Union] members provide essential services to the people of Saskatchewan 365 days a year, Mr. Speaker.

Now while I was there they handed to me, provided to me, and asked me to deliver to the Premier a number of letters — well over 200, Mr. Speaker, in number. And interestingly enough these letters are all signed by people who live in the southwest of Saskatchewan: Abbey, Lancer, Ponteix, Maple Creek, and many from Swift Current. Mr. Speaker, the letter to the Premier reads:

If passed, Bill # 5, misleadingly called Essential Services, will make it more difficult for our province to retain and recruit qualified health care providers.

That is bad news for the people of Saskatchewan — quality health care depends on quality jobs.

SEIU members provide essential health care 365 days a year.

Bill # 5 does not respect the voice and experience of health care providers in designing an essential services plan. Instead, it personalizes a public debate by attacking individual workers.

Why put health care at risk? Why attack our dedicated health care providers?

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to having these brought over to the Premier before the course of the day. And I congratulate the work of SEIU — not in terms of their fight on this issue, but what they do on a daily basis 365 days a year for the people of Saskatchewan.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

OUESTION PERIOD

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Drought Assistance for the Southwest

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It looks like the southwest part of our province is once again bracing for a year of drought, the fourth year in a row. I understand the minister's recent budget contains some money for long-term water infrastructure in areas prone to drought. To the minister: what additional help can our drought-affected farmers and producers expect from this government?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, that's actually a very good question for the member opposite. The farmers and ranchers in the Southwest are finding hard times. This is actually the third, fourth year that this problem has been happening down there. And, Mr. Speaker, one of the things that we're doing right now is we're in the works of dealing with a water project where maybe we can help alleviate some of the wells that are dry down there or a shortage of wells. Dugouts are going empty down there.

Another thing that we've done, Mr. Speaker, is with the gopher problem down there which the member also knows is a big problem in the Southwest. We've come out with a research program to try and also assist in getting strychnine reinstated after July 31. So as the member knows, number of problems in the Southwest, and we're trying to deal with them as they come up.

[14:00]

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you. Back when the Minister of Agriculture was in opposition, he constantly spoke about the drought in this part of the province. And he indicated that if there was a number of acres that can't be seeded, many of these farmers are going to go under without federal and provincial help.

Well as we know, the members of the Southwest Drought Disaster Committee are asking for a \$25 per acre payout — \$10

from the province and \$15 from the feds. The Sask Party certainly supported those requests in previous years. To the minister: will he stand by the commitments that he made back when he was in opposition?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I find it amazing that the member opposite talks about commitments that I had talked about when we were in opposition. When I was in opposition and sitting on that side of the House, that drought was in the works for three years. And what did that previous government do? If I remember right, absolutely nothing, Mr. Speaker.

But I guess that's actually in line with what they did for agriculture for the 16 years they were in power. Not just in the Southwest, all over Saskatchewan — they totally ignored rural Saskatchewan, did absolutely nothing for the benefit of . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Order. The Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. For 16 years they totally ignored rural Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers, but they seemed to find \$100 million for Domtar in a sweetheart deal just before the election. So I find a problem when that member on that side asks me what we're going to do when we are dealing with problems down there when they did nothing for 16 years.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Ms. Atkinson: — Well, Mr. Speaker, there's no money for Domtar, and obviously there's no money for drought-stricken farmers. I understand that the minister was down in the Southwest recently visiting drought-stricken areas and meeting with the Southwest Drought Disaster Committee. Committee member Allan Oliver was quoted in the *Prairie Post* shortly after the visit, and here's what he had to say, quote:

"On December 6, 2006 we all descended on the Legislature and ... [the] then Opposition Leader was really pressing for fairness and an acreage payment" ... "But now there's no commitment."

To the minister: will he make that commitment today? Will he promise Saskatchewan producers . . . or will he keep his word that he made to those producers in December '06? Will he commit to a per acre payout for those producers that are struck with the fourth year of drought?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well, Mr. Speaker, yes I did tour the Southwest. And I might mention that they also made the comment they'd asked previous ministers that come from that side of the House and wouldn't go down to even take a look for the last three years to see how bad it was. I have been down there. I have made the commitment that right after seeding, I'm going to go back and see if the problem is even worse than it was before. We're following that program really close, Mr. Speaker.

I might also add that we have, the education tax on farm land and ranchland is another . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Order. Member Responsible for Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to go back because I think it's very important. We made a commitment during the election that we would deal with the education tax on farm land and ranchland. We've honoured that commitment. Promise made, promise kept, Mr. Speaker.

Have we solved, Mr. Speaker, all the problems in the Southwest? Not even close. We're going to be following it very closely. And I've made the commitment that following seeding, I'm going to go back down there and take more time and deal with the producers in that area. And we'll see what comes, if no rain or snow comes by that time.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Court Services in Humboldt

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, apparently ready for growth doesn't apply in Humboldt. With over one and a half billion dollars in the bank, the Minister of Justice has decided to cut service at the Court of Queen's Bench in Humboldt effective June 1. The cut will mean decreased access to court services for the residents of the Humboldt area.

The people of Humboldt find it strange that the Sask Party government, self-declared defender of rural Saskatchewan, is now using its first budget to tell the people of Humboldt they can go to Saskatoon to get their court services.

To the minister: Why is he attacking rural Saskatchewan by cutting justice services in Humboldt?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I thank the member opposite for the question. We carefully analyzed all of the needs as we went through the budgeting process. And I can advise the member opposite and I can advise the members of the public that provincial court services will continue to be provided in

Humboldt, as well as chamber services and a number of other court services.

What will no longer be provided in Humboldt will be the opportunity to do Queen's Bench trials. In the last year, there was only four trials done, and it required a full-time staff person there. So we believe it's an effective use of our money to have those trials conducted in Saskatoon which is just barely an hour away, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, the Justice minister's axing of court services in Humboldt is causing concern about access to justice. And we understand about the Provincial Court. But this decision means increased costs associated with filing documents online, and it will also mean clients will be on the hook for additional travel time and expenses for their lawyers to go to court.

Humboldt lawyer, Amber Biemans says the extra costs for clients may mean someone who needs more child support won't have enough money to pay a lawyer to make an application for more, and she argues that the decision will mean some people, quote, "can't afford justice."

The Speaker: — Order. If members would pay attention, the member presenting the question will have the opportunity to present it. I recognize the member for Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — What was the minister's response to concerns that his decision will limit access to justice? He, quote, "hopes not." To the minister: with over a billion and a half dollars in the bank, why is he making decisions which mean some living in rural Saskatchewan won't be able to afford justice?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question from the member opposite. We too share the concerns about access to justice and want to ensure that justice will continue to be made available as required to all citizens of the province. And that's why we were looking at things such as online filing of documents, video teleconferencing between points in the Far North, and a variety of other options to ensure that we can continue to provide services.

I can advise, Mr. Speaker, that courthouses in the past have been closed. Kerrobert was closed some years ago under a previous administration.

And it's our intention to make sure that the citizens of Humboldt are well served. I can advise that there's been a commitment to build Highway 368 in Humboldt, school commitments in that area as well. It's not our intention to abandon that community. It's an important community in our

province, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, it seems everyone but the Minister of Social Services is concerned about the cut's impact on her city of Humboldt. When contacted by the president of the Humboldt Bar Association, the minister couldn't have expressed less concern, even if she tried. She thanked him for bringing his concern to her attention, adding that she understood he had already met with the Justice minister and doubted she had anything to add. But if he insisted on pursuing the matter further, she would be available to meet on May 20 — 11 whole days before the closure is scheduled to occur.

To the Minister of Social Services: why is she so indifferent to a cut that affects justice, access to justice, and justice in her community? She's already had one budget do-over. Can she get another one for her own people in the city of Humboldt?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Social Services.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I would just like to state the commitment that this government has had to the city of Humboldt. The city of Humboldt and area has been asking for years for something to be done with Highway 368, and this government is going to fix Highway 368.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, the city of Humboldt has been asking for years for a hospital. And this year it's gone to tender, and if there's a cost overrun, we will cover the cost overrun on that hospital.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, Humboldt has been asking for years for a new high school, and this year we announced our commitment to a new high school in Humboldt. That's what we're doing for Humboldt.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — The lawyers in Humboldt, without talking to me, expressed concerns in the *Humboldt Journal* of this particular issue. My office had not one phone call of concern on this issue.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!,

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Lakeview.

Mr. Nilson: — Mr. Speaker, in 2000, our government reversed

the pending decision to cut court services in Humboldt after listening to the public outcry, including that of the opposition. The Premier had some pretty interesting things to say when the closure was being considered. He railed against the government for considering closing services saying, quote:

There appears to be \$500,000 in the Justice department budget for increased administration, increased salaries of the minister's advisers and staff, and yet not enough to keep court houses open in rural Saskatchewan.

Interesting that in 2000 the Premier was opposed to pay hikes for ministerial staff and advisers and the closure of rural court services, but eight short years later he is perfectly in favour of both. To the Premier: why say one thing and then do another? How many of his personal advisers would he have to fire to keep court services open in Humboldt? One, maybe two.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, the taxpayers of this province expect us to make efficient use of their money. They give us money with the expectation that we have to make sometimes difficult decisions. But to maintain a courthouse and maintain courthouse staff for a total of four trials — that's one trial every three months — when we've got another judicial centre less than an hour away is just not an effective or efficient use of taxpayers' dollars.

We have, Mr. Speaker, ensured that there is chambers that will be held in Humboldt at least once a month. Provincial Court will meet there regularly. The facility will be kept. And, Mr. Speaker, we intend to work with the legal community in Humboldt to make sure that they're able to file documents and be able to conduct their law practices in an effective and appropriate manner, unlike the NDP who closed the Maidstone Provincial Court House in its entirety, and that community lost its access to justice entirely.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

Consultation Regarding The Education Amendment Act

Mr. Wotherspoon: — On Monday in committee, the Minister of Education was asked about the impact of Bill 29 on children with disabilities, specifically section 178. He said he had consulted extensively with groups and stated the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living. And I quote: "And there is support from those organizations as well. So the amendments that we're proposing are well supported by everyone."

Well, Mr. Speaker, today the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living issued a news release calling the legislation, I quote "regressive, shocking and simply unacceptable." To the minister: did he really not know how the group felt about this legislation? Or did he knowingly mislead the public.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, the questions that were asked of me during the debate on The Education Act were extensive. We were talking about numerous sections, and one of them has been around the use of proper words, proper phrases to identify students with disabilities, deficiencies, and that term is now being changed to pupils with intensive needs.

Mr. Speaker, the information that I was provided at the meeting is what I provided to the question posed by the member opposite. And it indicated, Mr. Speaker, that there were numerous organizations that had been consulted, which included the Saskatchewan Association of Community Living.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Order. Order. I just want to remind members that in their responses and in their questions to be aware of what has, over the past number of years, been acceptable language. And knowingly misleading is not necessarily language that has been acceptable in the Chamber.

I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

[14:15]

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, so it's he said, she said here. Well that's not fair. It is clear the consultation process wasn't as inclusive as the minister would have us believe.

While the minister claimed on Monday that he consulted with groups such as the Saskatchewan Association of Community Living, we know now that that's not true. Mr. Speaker, the SACL [Saskatchewan Association of Community Living] states, they have not been consulted by the Ministry of Education since August 2007, and despite making numerous requests to the ministry for meetings and information prior to the tabling of Bill 29, they were, and I quote, "denied participation in this process."

To the minister, why did he say he consulted with the SACL when it is clear he did not? Will he commit to listening now?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do want to indicate to this Assembly that the press report that the member opposite refers to was discussed yesterday because my office received a phone call from SACL to actually ask for clarification on the very thing that he has asked, Mr. Speaker. So that's not new to my office.

The discussions have been going on for years, Mr. Speaker.

They were going on by the former minister of Education in response to the new kind of terminology that is needed, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my office took office on November 21, that's when I became the Minister of Education. There were many discussions that have . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Order. I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, there are . . .

The Speaker: — Order, the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow. I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I indicated, my staff indicated yesterday to the people from the SACL that we're going to work with them to determine how they feel that they weren't consulted. Was it the previous government, was it the previous government who had indicated in their responses, in their reports, in all of the material that my ministry has, was it their officials who did not do the consultation?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — For the minister to shame Community Living in that way is absolutely ridiculous. This creation of this legislation has been faulted from the start. To say he's consulted one day ago is an absolute joke. SACL President Laurie Larson says that the last draft of the legislation they saw was in August. And they expressed concerns at that time.

Since the election, despite requests, desire, and willingness to be involved, communication has been . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Order. The member has the right to place his question. The member from Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Since the election, despite requests, desire and willingness to be involved, communication has been nonexistent. They were shocked to see that the legislation tabled by the minister not only failed to address their concerns, but that it moved in the opposite direction — a direction they say is regressive, shocking, and simply unacceptable.

To the minister, with such grave concerns from disabilities experts, why did he boldly proceed with section 178 of the Act?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, I think the other night when I was asked by that member who the traditional stakeholders were and who is involved in consultations, I made it pretty clear that the traditional stakeholders are the SSBA [Saskatchewan School Boards Association], the STF [Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation], LEADS [League of

Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents], and SASBO [Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials], and the Government of Saskatchewan. Those are the traditional stakeholders. Those were the stakeholders used by the NDP for 16 years, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in the changes to The Education Act, I indicated that I wanted to broaden that consultation process. And I asked for input from SUMA [Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association], SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities], and the SOS [Save Our Schools]. Mr. Speaker, I did not involve all of the agencies, all of the boards, all of the groups in the province of Saskatchewan. I asked for input from those additional groups, Mr. Speaker, and we received some information.

So for a period of time, there was consultation with the traditional stakeholders. There has been drafts that have been developed, and there has been input, Mr. Speaker. Not all the requests of the groups in the province of Saskatchewan are included this time around.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The speaker's time has elapsed. I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Well the minister has to, I guess, dispute this with *Hansard* because he stated very clearly that he consulted with Community Living on Monday night.

It's clear there are legitimate concerns about what the minister's legislation means for children with disabilities. Groups representing those children say they have not been listened to, that the minister's legislation is regressive and shocking, and that it is a threat to the rights of children with disabilities.

I have a simple question for the minister. With these grave concerns, will he commit today to holding off on proclamation of this Act until he can consult with the Saskatchewan Association of Community Living and other concerned stakeholders? Will he commit to this today?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, the information that I provided to the member opposite on the night before last is this. Mr. Speaker, I indicated who the ministry had consulted with. I did not say I. Mr. Speaker, I did not say I as the Minister of Education because I have not been involved in the discussions with all of our partners. There have been four meetings, Mr. Speaker, and there will be a fifth meeting planned, Mr. Speaker.

There will be discussions with all of those stakeholders. We will continue to want to improve The Education Act, Mr. Speaker. I promise the member . . .

The Speaker: — Order. The member had the opportunity to place the question; allow the minister the opportunity to

respond.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Mr. Speaker, I promise the member opposite that we will continue to work over the next number of years with all the stakeholders to indeed develop changes to the Act that will improve education in the province of Saskatchewan, unlike the NDP.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview. Order. The member from Regina Rosemont will come to order. I'll allow the member from Saskatoon Fairview to place his question.

Privacy and Consultation

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, we've heard a lot of talk in this House recently on the subject of personal, private information. I'm wondering if the Minister of Labour can tell this House how highly he values the privacy of individuals who contact his office with valid disagreements about his public policy.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear. hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question. Mr. Speaker, obviously the Bills 5 and 6 have generated a great degree of interest right across that policy community. As I've said, we've consulted widely on this. We sent out over 84 letters of invitation. What we've seen is feedback. We've met with over 100 or nearly 100 stakeholders, Mr. Speaker. And so what we can say, Mr. Speaker, is that obviously there's a variety of opinions out there. We engage in any number of discussions and dialogues on these issues, Mr. Speaker, and we're happy to do so, especially with attentive citizens of Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, the member is true to form, still not answering questions on the question I asked about privacy and his respect for it. But, Mr. Speaker, we heard yesterday how the Minister of Labour and his colleagues in the Sask Party don't respect their constituents enough to actually meet with them and apparently they, we now know that they don't respect their privacy much either.

I'd like to table an email letter sent from the minister's office to almost 1,300 people who wrote to him with concerns about Bills 5 and 6. Mr. Speaker, what's interesting is that . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Member from Saskatoon Fairview.

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker,

what's interesting is that when he sent the letter, he forgot to hide the email addresses of every single person who had contacted him. In other words, Mr. Speaker, everyone who received the letter also received the personal email address of 1,300 other individuals who wrote to the minister.

To the minister, Mr. Speaker: does he at the very least care about the privacy of people who do agree with him, or does he not care about anyone's privacy?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Speaker, I certainly appreciate the question, and as the document's tabled, I'm happy to have a look at it, Mr. Speaker. Obviously the members from the official opposition have floated various documents around, and I'm happy to have a look at it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Private Bills Committee.

Standing Committee on Private Bills

Mr. Allchurch: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Private Bills to report Private Bill No. 901 The Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment and to present its second report. I move:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

 $\textbf{Some Hon. Members:} \ -- \ \mathsf{Question}.$

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. I recognize the member from Moose Jaw North.

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in the Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read for the third time.

The Speaker: — The member from Moose Jaw North has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the

Whole on Bill No. 901, The Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The member may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 901 — The Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008

Mr. Michelson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Bill now be read for the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the member from Moose Jaw North that Bill No. 901, The Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 28, The Vital Statistics Administration . . .

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

Mr. Trew: — I thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 28, The Vital Statistics Administration Transfer Act without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall the Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the minister responsible for Crown and central agencies.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that this Bill now be read a third time.

The Speaker: — The minister of Crown and central agencies

has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 28, The Vital Statistics Administration Transfer Act. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The minister may proceed to move third reading of the Bill.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 28 — The Vital Statistics Administration Transfer Act

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read for the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — The minister of Crown and central agencies has moved that Bill No. 28, The Vital Statistics Administration Transfer Act be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 27, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act without amendment.

The Speaker: — The chairman of the Crown and Central . . . Just give me one second here. I got ahead of myself. The Chair of Crown and Central Agencies has moved that Bill No. 27, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the second time. I recognize the Government Services minister.

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that this Bill be now read a third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister Responsible for Government Services has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 27, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act and that the Bill be now

read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The member may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 27 — The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008/Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard

Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: — Mr. Speaker, I move that this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Government Services that Bill No. 27, The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the standing committee on Crown corporations.

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 1, The Growth and Financial Security Act without amendment.

[14:30]

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Government House Leader has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 1, The Growth and Financial Security Act and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 1 — The Growth and Financial Security Act

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 1, The Growth and Financial Security Act be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 10, The Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 10, The Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The minister may proceed to move third reading of the Bill.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 10 — The Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that

this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 10, The Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Ouestion.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 35, The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment.

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

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 35, The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading. I recognize the Minister of Finance.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 35 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 35, The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

Mr. Trew: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies to report Bill No. 38, The Corporate Capital Tax Act without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Finance has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 38, The Corporate Capital Tax Act and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to third reading. Minister of Finance.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 38 — The Corporate Capital Tax Act

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Finance that Bill No. 35, The Corporate Capital Tax Act be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 3, The Potash Development Repeal Act without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Resources and Energy.

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in the Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that this Bill be now read a third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Energy and Resources has request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 3, The Potash Development Repeal Act and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading of the Bill. I recognize the minister.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 3 — The Potash Development Repeal Act

Hon. Mr. Boyd: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I move that this Bill be now read a third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister Responsible for Energy and Resources that Bill No. 3, The Potash Development Repeal Act be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: -- Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 19, The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Social Services.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read for the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Social Services has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 19, The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The minister may proceed to move third reading of this Bill. I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 19 — The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Social Services that Bill No. 19, The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 21, The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Act without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Education has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 21, The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The minister may proceed to move third reading. I recognize the Minister of Education.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 21 — The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Education that Bill No. 21, The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Mr. Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 22, The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of Agriculture has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill

No. 22, The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading of the Bill. I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 22 — The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill now be read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Agriculture that Bill No. 22, The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy.

Standing Committee on the Economy

Mr. Huyghebaert: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on the Economy to report Bill No. 8, The Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in committee? I recognize the Minister Responsible for the Environment.

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this Bill and that the Bill be now read the third time.

The Speaker: — The Minister of the Environment has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 8, The Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008 and that the Bill be now read the third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. The minister may proceed to move third reading. I recognize the Minister of the Environment.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 8 — The Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Ms. Heppner: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this Bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Speaker: — The Minister of the Environment has moved that Bill No. 8, The Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008 be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried.

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

TABLING OF ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before orders of the day, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to submit further estimates accompanied by a message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

The Speaker: — Would members please rise for the message from His Honour. The message is as follows:

The Lieutenant Governor transmits further estimates of certain sums required for the service of the province for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly. The Honourable Gordon L. Barnhart, Lieutenant Governor, province of Saskatchewan.

Please be seated.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure on behalf of the government to table the answer to questions 595 to 615.

The Speaker: — Questions 595 to 615 tabled. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to allow the good work of the committees to proceed, I move that this House do now adjourn.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Agreed. Carried. This Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. to allow for the workings of committees.

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:51.]

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Hon. Brad Wall Premier

Hon. Bob Bjornerud

Minister of Agriculture Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Hon. Bill Boyd

Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff

Minister of Crown Corporations

Hon. Dan D'Autremont

Minister of Government Services
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and
Gaming Authority
Minister Responsible for the Information
Technology Office

Hon. June Draude

Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations Minister Responsible for Northern Affairs

Hon. Wayne Elhard

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission Provincial Secretary

Hon. Rod Gantefoer

Minister of Finance

Hon. Donna Harpauer

Minister of Social Services

Hon. Nancy Heppner

Minister of Environment

Hon. Darryl Hickie

Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

Hon. Bill Hutchinson

Minister of Municipal Affairs Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation

Hon. Ken Krawetz

Deputy Premier Minister of Education

Hon. Don McMorris

Minister of Health

Hon. Don Morgan

Minister of Justice Attorney General

Hon. Rob Norris

Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour Minister Responsible for Immigration Minister Responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Lyle Stewart

Minister of Enterprise and Innovation

Hon. Christine Tell

Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Responsible for the Capital City Commission