

FIRST SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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NO. 40A THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008, 10 a.m.

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	Saskatoon Eastview
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
LeClerc, Serge	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Michelson, Warren	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 SP	Regina Wascana Plains Moosomin
Toth, Hon. Don Travy, Kim		
Trew, Kim Van Mulligen, Harry	NDP NDP	Regina Coronation Park
		Regina Douglas Park
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy Wilson, Nadine	SP SP	Biggar Saskatahawan Piyors
	SP NDP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent Yates, Kevin	NDP NDP	Regina Rosemont
Vacant	INDE	Regina Dewdney Cumberland
v acalit		Cumpenanu

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

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

Mr. Chisholm: — Mr. Speaker, I have an apology to make. Thank you.

The Speaker: — The member from Cut Knife-Turtleford has asked for leave. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cut Knife-Turtleford.

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Mr. Chisholm: — Mr. Speaker, on May 5 during debate in the Committee of Intergovernmental Affairs, I made an extremely inappropriate remark directed towards the hon. member for Moose Jaw Wakamow. I have no excuse for this remark. I was wrong, and it shouldn't have been thought or said.

Yesterday I sent a note of apology to the member for Moose Jaw Wakamow, and today I wish to withdraw that offensive remark and apologize to the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow and all members of the Assembly. I also intend to apologize in committee the next time the committee meets.

Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago the Premier made a very moving statement in this Assembly talking about the need for all of us to take careful inventory of our words and our actions. I failed to live up to the Premier's direction in this regard. Therefore this morning, Mr. Speaker, I've offered my resignation as Legislative Secretary to the Premier and he has accepted. I deeply regret any hurt my words have caused.

The Speaker: — I thank the member for the statement, his apology, and his endeavour to also give the same statement in committee.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you I would like to introduce a class of constituent students from Saskatchewan education seated up in your west gallery. I'd like to also welcome their teacher, Adam Alback, here today. I had the pleasure of meeting with these students a couple weeks back — and it's certainly my pleasure to host them in our Assembly here today again — had a really good discussion two weeks ago. I know they're looking forward to watching question period, and I ask all members of this Assembly to extend greetings.

Hon. Members: ---- Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce to you and through you a retired lieutenant colonel, Harriet Sloan of Ottawa. Harriet Sloan graduated as a registered nurse in 1940. She joined the Canadian medical corps in 1941 and took employment in Regina at the military hospital, which consisted of several shacks joined together, where now we know as the Pasqua Hospital.

Harriet was in Holland when peace was declared. Returning to Canada, she practised her nursing career within the military. Near the end of her career Hallie, or Harriet, worked part-time for the Canadian Nurses Foundation. She retired from the profession of nursing in 1982. Harriet returned in September 2007 to commemorate the unveiling of the Nursing Sister statue which is located on our legislative grounds.

Last night the SRNA [Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association] recognized, at the awards banquet celebrating RN [registered nurse] leaders, Harriet Sloan. She was awarded SRNA's honorary membership. Accompanying her in the House today is Brigadier General Cliff Walker, a retired member of the Canadian Forces. Please join with me in welcoming them to our Legislative Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, joining us in the east gallery are 21 grade 12 students from Aden Bowman Collegiate in the constituency of Saskatoon Nutana. They are joined by their teachers Jeff Balzer and Katie Kehrig.

I want to welcome them to the Assembly this morning. They arrived here at 9 o'clock. I know that they've had a tour. And I plan on meeting them immediately after question period to have a short visit, Mr. Speaker. So I would ask all members of the Assembly to welcome these fine students from grade 12 in Saskatoon at Aden Bowman to the Assembly.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. LeClerc: — Mr. Speaker, to you and through you in your west gallery are 51 grade 7 and 8's from St. George School in Saskatoon. And I think that they may be the finest looking group of young people in 7 and 8 out of Saskatoon. They are accompanied by their teachers, Rachele Akerman, Lindsay Wawryk, Mark Kindrachuk, and Anita Romanoff.

And I will challenge them to get ready to pose some tough questions — think of tough questions for me — when I meet with them later over a juice box and to try to explain what they've just seen here in question period.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Junor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You may wonder why we're all wearing our red carnations today. This is a day to recognize MS [multiple sclerosis] in Saskatchewan.

And I'd like to welcome people from the MS Society, up in your gallery, and thank them for the work they do on behalf of the thousands of people who have MS, and particularly in Saskatchewan. So welcome to the legislature today.

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, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of Moose Jaw and the surrounding area which speaks to the need for improved health care in the Five Hills Health District. And 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 provide the funding for the expansion and renovation of the Moose Jaw Union Hospital.

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

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

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Iwanchuk: — Mr. Speaker, I present petitions today in opposition to the government's Bill 5, The Public Service Essential Services Act, and Bill 6, An Act to amend The Trade Union Act, and the prayer 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 ever pray.

And the petitions are from the residents of Battleford, Gallivan, Denholm, North Battleford, and Saskatoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Massey Place.

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I stand today to present a petition concerning the Sask Party's decision to axe Station 20 West in Saskatoon. The petition reads:

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 as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals that signed this petition, many of them are from my constituency of Saskatoon Massey Place from streets like Howell, 37th, and Madison. But there are also other people from Saskatoon who signed from the downtown area — 1st Avenue, 3rd Avenue — also on the east side, on Cumberland as well, and one individual from Martensville, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Weyburn.

Mother's Day

Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday is Mother's Day, a day to reflect and celebrate the important role that our mothers play. Historically Mother's Day began in Britain as Mothering Sunday and was timed to coincide with the fourth Sunday in Lent. The North American holiday was loosely inspired by the British one and traditionally falls on the second Sunday of May. The first Mother's Day was celebrated on May 10, 1908, in West Virginia.

For many, Mother's Day means breakfast in bed or a trip out for brunch. It is a day for flowers and cards, hugs and kisses and, in these days, interactive emails for those of us who may have waited until the last moment. Mother's Day is also the busiest day for the telephone companies. As Saskatchewan's population grows, so too do Mother's Day calls. SaskTel's projecting a 4 per cent increase this year with over 1 million long-distance calls attempted, expected this May 11. This is the first increase in the last five years.

Mr. Speaker, for me, my own mother, Laurie Duncan, has played such an important role in my life and yet I don't think that I've recognized her enough for the mother that she has been and continues to be for me and my siblings. Mr. Speaker, with two mischievous brats for sons by the time she was 20, and the mother to a chosen daughter a few years later, my mother provided a home for her children that all children should have — one filled with love, laughter, encouragement, and discipline. Lots of discipline, Mr. Speaker.

As we approach the second Sunday in May, I want to wish my mother and mother-in-law and to all the mothers in this Assembly a happy and restful Mother's Day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

World Lupus Day

Mr. Quennell: — Mr. Speaker, May 10 is World Lupus Day. Every day more than 5 million people worldwide struggle with the debilitating health consequences of lupus, a potentially fatal autoimmune disease capable of damaging virtually any part of the body.

Nine out of ten people with lupus are women. Eighty per cent of new lupus cases are diagnosed amongst women ages 14 to 44. Lupus therefore often strikes young women just when they are beginning their post-secondary education, starting their careers, or starting a family. Long-worked-for goals are clearly thwarted at the eve of achievement.

In its most severe form lupus can cause kidney failure, heart failure, or lung failure, impaired neurological function, strokes, heart attacks, and death. A majority of those affected must live with debilitating pain and profound fatigue which generally affects the quality of all their life.

Despite enormous public health implications, lupus remains a dangerously underrated and underappreciated women's health issue. It is hoped that greater public awareness of this disease will bring about improved health care services, increased research, and ultimately a cure.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

[10:15]

Art Auction for Regina & District Food Bank

Ms. Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tuesday I had the pleasure of attending Filling Empty Bowls, the third annual art auction and fundraiser in support of Regina & District Food Bank which is hosted by Alfredo's Fresh Pasta & Bistro. This was a great event which had local artists donating bowls and other pieces of art to be auctioned off to support the Regina Food Bank. This was a fun evening for a great cause, raising over 21,000 for needy residents of Regina.

Mr. Speaker, food banks serve an essential role to those trying to make ends meet in the inner city. With increasing housing costs and food prices, it's important that we support our food banks so that vulnerable people are able to put good, nutritious food on the table for their families.

Mr. Speaker, under the former premier we saw food bank usage skyrocket by over 50 per cent. Well this is a new government. In our first budget, we provided an additional 5 million to support food banks and community-based organizations. And just last month our government came forward with over 440,000 so that meat from Saskatchewan Pork could end up on food bank shelves where it will help the needs of thousands of people.

Thanks to all of those who worked hard to put this wonderful art auction and fundraising event together. Thank you very much.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Regina Douglas Park.

Wings Over Wascana Nature Festival

Mr. Van Mulligen: — Mr. Speaker, where in the world can you meet Ozzie, a great horned owl, or learn about bats and bust some myths about these fascinating flying mammals, or go for a night hike or do some star and planet gazing?

Where can you go for a bird walk with CBC [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation] Radio's bird man, Trevor Herriot? Where can you go for a nature walk with John Acorn, the nature nut and television show host? Where can you meet Wilma the falcon, learn to build a birdhouse, or meet Sanders, a live burrowing owl, or for that matter dissect owl pellets? Where can you learn to do your own bird count and see a bird banding demonstration?

Where in the world can you meet marsh monsters or visit an eco-friendly model campsite? Where can you learn to make your own nature journal or learn about landscaping with native plants, and have your face painted?

Where, Mr. Speaker? Well it's very close to this Legislative Building and in the Wascana Centre. What I have been referring to are but some of the activities in and around Wascana Marsh during the Wings over Wascana Nature Festival taking place May 9 and 10.

Mr. Speaker, the Wascana Centre is not only the setting for Wascana Lake, it is also home to Wascana Marsh, a thriving wildlife habitat and a federal migratory bird sanctuary. Please join me in recognizing the organizers of the Wings over Wascana Nature Festival for their efforts in opening our eyes and ears to an appreciation of our immediate natural habitat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Thunder Creek.

Long-time Family Owners Sell Regina Beach Café

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After 79 years of operation at Regina Beach, Butler's Fish & Chips will change hands. It's the end of an era. Rick and Dianna Butler have sold the café which has been owned and operated by members of the Butler family since 1928. In 1928, Maurice and Priscilla Butler moved to Regina Beach and rented, and then bought, the Blue Bird Café which had been built in 1920. At that time, there were flocks of bluebirds at Regina Beach, so even their house behind the café became known as the bluebird cottage.

Many stories have been told, Mr. Speaker, over the years, about the café and the dozens of people who worked for the Butlers and how much fun they had. This included Butler children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews who were peeling potatoes from the time they were eight years old.

And people would drive from miles around, Mr. Speaker, for Butler's fish and chips, including my own family, Mr. Speaker. Butler's café became a favourite hangout and gathering place that began to represent the community of Regina Beach. In fact it made the resort famous. If you said, let's have fish and chips, someone would immediately say, let's go to Butler's at the Beach.

The Blue Bird Café sign still hangs above the café, but the Butler name is gone. I wish the new owners, Glenn and Veronica Lucas, much success and hope that the café will remain a favourite hangout and gathering spot for many years to come and continue to serve the same famous fish and chips.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Keepers of the Land

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In my continuing effort to highlight the northern keepers of the land, I would like to highlight a long-time fisherman and trapper from Ile-a-la-Crosse, Mr. Angus Gardiner. Angus has been fishing since 1963 after his father, John Gardiner, taught him how to fish and trap and live off the land. Angus proudly points out that his grandfather, George Gardiner, was also a fisherman and trapper, and now he teaches his son Irwin how to fish and trap as well. Angus is very proud to say that he comes from generations of fishermen and trappers and families that have lived off the land for years.

Mr. Speaker, Angus raised his family through fishing and trapping, and although he did work at a northern mine site for a year, trapping and fishing were in his blood and he could not stay away from the land. Angus and his family took from the land what they needed and left the rest. Angus Gardiner, fisherman/trapper from Ile-a-la-Crosse, has this message for all of us to hear, quote:

Watch the land because when ducks die in the hundreds as they did in Alberta, it is a big worry. We eat and live off the land, so how you treat the land is important to everyone. Some of our people don't eat ducks or fish because they worry about chemicals or pollution. Trap lines and fur blocks also need to be respected. The noise and clear cutting chase the animals away and these animals will not come back. In the 1960's we had thousands of caribou in our area and we took what we needed to live and that was it — today there are no caribou in our area anymore. So do things differently and please respect our land.

Mr. Speaker, we all need to hear what Angus Gardiner, fisherman and trapper from Ile-a-la-Crosse, tells us, and we all need to pay attention.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Sherbrooke Nursing Home Experience

Ms. Schriemer: — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you and through you a very moving story about the human condition. This past Saturday I attended a fundraiser for Sherbrooke nursing home. Sherbrooke nursing home is in my constituency and it cares for level 3 and 4 patients. These patients need the highest level of care as they are dependent on others for their basic needs.

One of the patients was at the fundraiser and he shared his story. He was about 46 years old, riding his bicycle along the riverbank and crashed into another bicycle. The collision left him paralyzed, as he broke his neck. He shared that he was considering travelling to Europe to be euthanized.

Around this time a Saskatoon artist received a grant in order to provide art classes for the patients at Sherbrooke. The artist worked with this gentleman and taught him to hold a pencil or a brush in his mouth so he could paint and draw. The paralyzed man would also drive his wheelchair through paint and then on to canvas. Through art these patients can share their feelings, and the paralyzed gentleman has chosen life. To reflect their life these patients call themselves the insiders. Mr. Speaker, what a celebration of life. Thank you.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Before I call oral questions, while we like to welcome our visitors to the Assembly, I'd just ask visitors to be mindful of the fact that they're not to participate in any form of debate on the floor here.

QUESTION PERIOD

The Speaker: — Member from Saskatoon Nutana.

Nuclear Energy Development

Ms. Atkinson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the minister responsible for Crowns says the Sask Party is heading toward a nuclear reactor before the end of their mandate, but it's clear from yesterday they haven't done the work, or they won't provide answers. The Minister of Energy says he doesn't know of any possible sites, but the minister responsible for Crowns told reporters that there are and I quote "... numerous other potential sites for a nuclear plant in the province besides those mentioned in the report."

To the government: where are the numerous potential sites, and can they name them?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr.

Speaker. Member opposite will know that this government is very open to the idea of a nuclear plant in Saskatchewan. We're open to the idea of private sector partners coming into Saskatchewan, bringing their expertise, bringing their ideas, bringing their dollars, and bringing the jobs here into Saskatchewan.

Much work has to be done as was explained yesterday, and we will be looking at those private sector partners to do some due diligence, to look at the appropriate site, and to bring it forward. The NDP [New Democratic Party] siting study that was the subject of much debate yesterday indicated two sites that were put forward to the previous government, to the previous administration, and the member opposite will know all about that.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Well, Mr. Speaker, if you review the Sask Party platform, there was no mention of a nuclear reactor in their platform and, in fact, Mr. Speaker, there was a commitment to the Crown sector.

The minister in charge of the file either doesn't know his file or is secretive and doesn't want to tell us. The minister responsible for Crowns says he's aware of numerous other potential sites, but Saskatchewan people are on a need-to-know basis. According to the minister, they don't need to know if a reactor might end up in their backyard where they spend their summers, or be connected to their water supply.

So to the government: can they name the numerous potential sites for a nuclear reactor and why aren't they prepared to share that with Saskatchewan citizens?

Some Hon. Members: ---- Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — I can assure the member opposite, Mr. Speaker, that I know my file very, very well.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Unlike, unlike the member opposite who didn't know if she saw the study. Yes, she did see the study; no, she didn't see the study. Then she said that the study was rejected. Well if you didn't see the study, how can you reject the study, Mr. Speaker? That's the question that the member opposite hasn't answered whatsoever.

As far as our commitment to the Crowns, Mr. Speaker, it is very clear. We are committed to the Crown Corporations, SaskPower included. Members opposite took a very narrow view where they thought that every dollar that's risked in this province should be a taxpayer's dollar, and that's not the case with this government, Mr. Speaker. Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Ms. Atkinson: — Since the member doesn't want to tell us the names of the sites, perhaps I can suggest some locations, and the minister can just nod yes or no. I'll start off with a suggestion from the Enterprise and Innovation minister; is it Meadow Lake? How about Kenosee Lake? Is it Candle Lake or maybe it's Rafferty. Mr. Speaker, this would be a whole lot simpler if the members opposite would come clean with the people of the province.

To the government: according to the minister we are less than four years away from a decision on a nuclear reactor. Where will it be located, because Saskatchewan people have the right to know.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Crown Corporations.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Mr. Speaker, this Henny Penny the sky is falling argument does nothing — adds nothing — to this debate. Mr. Speaker, the member opposite who represents a Saskatoon constituency, as I do, probably read the newspaper this morning and I'm going to quote. The editorial says, "Anti-nuke gang won't carry day in province now." And I'm quoting, "Saskatchewan has paid dearly for listening to a bunch of radicals who are willing to sacrifice everything — including the province's future — in an ... [ill-conceived] bid to stymie civil nuclear development," Mr. Speaker.

I would suggest that's more of the same we're that hearing today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Cost of Living in the North

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Northern Affairs. Whether it's Cumberland House, La Ronge, La Loche, or Buffalo Narrows, the extremely high cost of power to the North is making it very hard on families and poor families. Margaret Naldzil who is a social development worker in Fond-du-Lac area, she estimates that the average household will be forced to spend nearly \$500 a month for power. In the coldest winter months, these costs can reach nearly \$1,000 per month.

Mr. Speaker, combined with the high cost to northerners for food, for transportation, for basic supplies, families in the North aren't seeing all the benefits of the economic boom of our province. To the Minister of Northern Affairs: how long will the Saskatchewan Party government ignore the people of the North while they struggle with unfair costs? Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Corporations.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you very much to the member opposite for the question. It's an important question that we all have to ask ourselves in Saskatchewan, the cost of power generation and the needs going forward in light of our commitments around greenhouse gases. And that's why this government is committed to looking at all aspects of power generation. We're committed to by generation. We're committed to hydro development in the North, to clean coal, and also to nuclear development. It's important to take a well-rounded approach free of political philosophy to ensure that Saskatchewan people get the power at the lowest possible cost, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Northern Affairs. Mr. Speaker, power isn't the only inflated cost that northerners face every day. In Uranium City through the winter months, the price of gasoline was steady at \$2.39 a litre. That's double the cost of gas in southern areas of Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, people in the North are required to travel regularly in order to visit family, to buy food, and to access services. Many people access . . .

The Speaker: — Order. The member may place his question.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many people access medical services by using medical taxis that shuttle people to and from hospitals and clinics. The extreme cost of gas in the North makes it difficult for families to afford the service and get necessary medical treatment.

Once again my question is to the Minister of Northern Affairs. Why won't the minister commit to doing anything about the cost of power for northerners? Will she do anything about the extreme cost of gasoline to northerners? Will she do anything for the people of the North while sitting on a 1.5 to \$2 billion nest egg, Mr. Speaker?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

[10:30]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for First Nations and native affairs.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, not only to the member across but to the people of the North, I'm very pleased to tell you that not just the Minister of Northern Affairs but all of this government is very interested in what's happened in the North. The North is part of the economic boom that we

all are looking forward to. After 16 years in government, that member didn't do anything for the North, and now he stands up and saying that we should do.

In fact I'm really interested to read what was written by his own *Commonwealth* magazine when they said that "Lost . . . [in] the 'booming economy' rhetoric was any mention of the fact that not everyone is sharing the benefits."

We know that northerners weren't sharing the benefits, and that's why at the round table last week we had eight ministers talking to the people in the North, saying what we were going to do as the new government for northerners.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, that answer's insulting to the intelligence of the people of the North because everybody in the North knows, Mr. Speaker, that when we were in power, we were paying something like \$900 million on interest payments alone to the debt left by that former government, Mr. Speaker. We never sat, we never sat on one and a half to \$2 billion in the bank, Mr. Speaker. We never had a booming economy, Mr. Speaker. We never had record oil. So once again, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to ask the minister . . .

The Speaker: — Members will come to order. Members will come to order. I ask the member from Athabasca to place his question.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, the high cost of power, the high cost of fuel, the high cost of food — Mr. Speaker, northern Saskatchewan, whether it's in the Cumberland constituency or Athabasca, they're struggling every day with these costs while this government sits on one and a half to \$2 billion in the bank, Mr. Speaker. Once again, whether it's high cost of fuel, high cost of food, high cost of power, we look to the Minister of Northern Affairs to champion northern issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the question: is she doing that? The answer is she's not, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for First Nations and Métis Relations.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, I was very honoured last week to Co-Chair a table on the northern economy with the elected leaders in the North. And they came from the North with lots of optimism and lots of enthusiasm for this new government and the potential we have. In fact the quote from the member who used to be representing the North, Joan Beatty, said, "Unfortunately as a government we have not done well when it comes to dealing with First Nations and Métis peoples." Well this government is working with the First Nations people, the Métis people, and the northern people to ensure that everyone shares in the benefits of this province.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Grain Transportation

Mr. Harper: — Mr. Speaker, we heard last week that this government has no intentions of helping agriculture producers \dots

The Speaker: — Order. The member from Athabasca will come to order. Member from Regina Northeast.

Mr. Harper: — Mr. Speaker, we heard last week that this government has no intentions of helping agriculture producers with rising input costs — costs from fuel and costs from fertilizer. But it's not just the input costs that are going up. Transportation costs are going up as well. The Canadian Transportation Agency announced on April 24 that rates will increase 8 per cent in 2008-2009. Farmers are now facing the highest ever annual increase in rail rates for grain. High transportation costs could very well prevent farmers from benefiting from the increase in grain prices.

My question is to the Minister of Infrastructure: does his government have any plan — any plan at all — to help producers who are being hit from all sides, including freight costs?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well thank you for the question, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the member knows full well that transportation costs have been a problem all through rural Saskatchewan for many, many years, and we understand that as a government.

Where we're coming from, I guess unlike the previous government, is we're trying to do everything we can to reduce costs for our farmers out there and ranchers. One of the things we've done is to deal with the education tax rebate on farm land and ranchland, Mr. Speaker, something that farmers have been asking for for many years, something they didn't receive when that government was in power.

Mr. Speaker, we certainly understand transportation costs, fuel costs, fertilizer costs are all going up, but at the same time, Mr. Speaker, grain prices have also improved. So I think, Mr. Speaker, sometimes we take it hand in hand but look very optimistic to the future on the grain side of the agriculture industry.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Harper: — Mr. Speaker, lots has changed since 1992.

Farm size, rail track mileage, rail service and car supply simply come to mind. But one thing that hasn't changed since 1992 is the cost assumption in the composite index used by the federal government to examine rail rates in this country.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, along with the provincial organization such as APAS [Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan], is calling for the federal government to put farmers first by beginning immediately a costing review. To the minister: will he join with the farmers in calling for immediate costing review for grain transportation by the federal government?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well, Mr. Speaker, as we all know and the member knows full well that there's a service review going on, that they're looking into the service provided to farmers out there. I think it's one of the biggest bones of contention right now is that the railways are probably, in the farmer's mind, not the most popular people in the world because grain doesn't seem to be a priority of movement. And I think that's one of the problems we have out there.

When the member talks about a costing review, the Minister of Highways and my department, Mr. Speaker, are looking at the costing review, at what the costs are for transportation of products of all kinds, not just agriculture products, but especially agriculture products at this time when all input costs are going up.

When talking about a costing review, though, I think we would have some cautions looking at that, Mr. Speaker, in saying that railways really right now aren't looking at making grain a priority or farm products a priority right now, so we have to be very careful where we go with this, Mr. Speaker, when asking the railways to provide a better service for less cost. And I think I agree with the member that transportation costs are very high and we have to look at it, but we have to go in . . .

The Speaker: — The minister's time is elapsed. I recognize the member from Regina Northeast.

Mr. Harper: — Mr. Speaker, even the federal Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food understands. They unanimously supported a resolution calling for the Minister of Transport to ask the commission to include freight rates and their impacts on grain shippers in the review. Mr. Speaker, this motion was tabled by a Conservative and supported by none other than Minister Carol Skelton. And yet this Sask Party government doesn't think the costing review is necessary. To the minister: if Carol Skelton is willing to stand up for Saskatchewan farmers, why on earth isn't the Saskatchewan Party government?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: — Well, Mr. Speaker, we do certainly support the level of service review. I think I've talked about that on many occasions already, that we believe there has to be an improvement to the service provided to agriculture out there, and we will be pushing for those changes.

But for the member to insinuate that this problem just happened \ldots . This problem's been there for year after year, back to the days when that member was farming, Mr. Speaker. This didn't happen today. And the previous government did absolutely nothing for 16 years, and in five months, expects our government to have made the changes that he's looking for today.

So what I would ask the member opposite is to back us when we're dealing with the federal government and the railways to improve service at the most reasonable cost possible, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

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

Gas Prices and Election Promises

Mr. Calvert: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in August of 2005 the price of gas at the pumps in this province spiked to over \$1 a litre. On September 7, 2005, the member from Swift Current, then the leader of the opposition, said and I quote, that "Saskatchewan people deserve a break." He said it was time for the provincial government of the day, and again I quote "... to climb off their stack of oil and gas revenues and give the people of Saskatchewan some of their money back."

Well last night, Mr. Speaker, I observed people here in the capital city at the pumps paying not just over \$1 a litre, but \$1.31.9 a litre. So my question is for the Premier. Does he believe today what he believed in 2005 that the people of Saskatchewan deserve a break?

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, the people of this province certainly do deserve a break. They got a big one on November 7.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, we have said in the preparation of our budget we certainly, in a priority manner we looked at the promises we made to the people of Saskatchewan in the campaign. We were able to realize some 40 of those promises in our very first budget. The most significant promise we made on the tax side was to bring relief for educational property tax, and we certainly did that.

I said in this House yesterday and I've said it in scrums and I've said it in interviews, that we will continue to monitor all of the issues that are affecting our citizens because we fundamentally believe that the people of this province need and should share in the prosperity that this province is realizing, and we are committed to doing that.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance wants to talk about the Premier's promises. Well let me remind him again, in September of 2005 the Premier promised that a Sask Party government would cut the provincial gas tax by 1 cent for every dollar that the world price of oil exceeded \$60 a barrel. That's what he promised.

Well yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the price of oil reached almost \$124 dollars a barrel. So if the Premier would keep his promise, that would mean the total elimination, the total elimination of the provincial fuel tax. So my question again is for the Premier. Will he keep his promise that he made to the people of Saskatchewan in 2005?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, certainly the Leader of the Opposition understands that we are in very uncharted territory in terms of the volatility of the price of oil in this country and in the world. Certainly, certainly...

The Speaker: — Members will come to order. There's ample time to place questions if members give the minister the opportunity to respond. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Certainly, Mr. Speaker, certainly in the preparation of this year's budget, there were estimations of what the price of oil may do in the future that ranged very significantly. They ranged from as low as \$65 a barrel to as high as \$125 a barrel. And certainly it's easy to right now look and say, currently it's \$120-plus a barrel. There is no certainly in the industry that this is going to be maintained. And so it's a very, very volatile issue that we certainly need to keep a very clear . . .

The Speaker: — Order. Members will come to order. The minister may finalize his comments.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, it is certainly . . . The price of gas at the pumps is only one of a number of issues that we are closely monitoring to make sure that our citizens are aptly looked after.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

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

Mr. Calvert: — Well, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance is right. This is uncharted territory. He's sitting on a mountain of money so tall that he can't see the top of it. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about \$124-a-barrel oil.

The Speaker: — Members will come to order. Members will come to order and allow the Leader of the Opposition to place his question.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, in 2005 the Premier of the province today said that the people of Saskatchewan deserve a break. They deserve a break. He's sitting on a mountain of money, Mr. Speaker, a mountain of money. Now is this another example, is this another example...

The Speaker: — Order. Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, is this another example of a group of people, a party who will say anything in opposition, but do nothing in government on behalf of the people they seek to represent?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, we have said clearly in the platform under which we ran for the election that there were priorities that this government was going to initiate on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan. One of the priorities we said we were going to do is provide meaningful tax relief on educational property tax. We're doing that in the budget.

The other thing that we quickly realized, that we quickly realized in reviewing the dismal record of the previous government over 16 years, that there had to be significant improvement to the infrastructure of this province. And so we are using funds that we have available to fix the highways and roads in this province so the people can actually drive...

[10:45]

The Speaker: — Order. If members are not prepared to allow individuals to place their answer to their question, we will move straight forward to government orders. Minister of Finance may complete his question.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are carefully and methodically going through the review of things that need to be done in order to make sure that we build a sustainable economy going forward. We have promised to do that. We are doing it in a responsible way with the best interests of Saskatchewan at heart, and we will continue to do just that.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, back in 2005 when the . . .

The Speaker: — Please allow the member to place his question.

Mr. Calvert: — Mr. Speaker, back in 2005 and even before when the Premier was making promises about giving Saskatchewan people a break at the pumps, the now Prime Minister, Mr. Stephen Harper, then in opposition, joined with the then leader of the opposition here in calling on the federal Liberal government to cut the GST [goods and services tax] at the pumps. In fact Mr. Harper had a plan which said that a Conservative government wouldn't charge the GST on any price of fuel at the pump over 85 cents a litre.

Well I want to ask the Premier, has he been in touch with his good friend, Stephen Harper? Has he called on now the Conservative government to cut the GST for motorists in Saskatchewan? Has he called on his friend, Stephen Harper, to keep Stephen Harper's promise to the people of Canada?

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Mr. Speaker, clearly this government has stated in the past and will continue to state in the future that it is our intention to build a respectful, professional relationship with whoever occupies the federal government in Ottawa, and we're going to continue to do that, Mr. Speaker, because this is important for the well-being of our citizens. We are at an opportunity — now that we have a forward-thinking, progressive, determined government to realize the best interests of Saskatchewan people in place. This province has a potential to prosper like it never has in the past under that government's tyranny. Mr. Speaker, they are not only unable to fulfill their own promises; now they look whimsically at the opportunity to criticize us when we are actually keeping our word.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for First Nations and Métis Relations.

Round Table Conference with First Nations and Métis People

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, next week there will be a gathering which will have an important impact on the First Nations and Métis people in our province and in sustaining our provincial economy. This event will take place in Saskatoon, and it'll be a historic event.

It's a round-table conference on consultation and accommodation with First Nations and Métis people. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court of Canada rulings have determined that the government has a duty to consult with First Nations and Métis people when their decisions have the potential to impact Aboriginal or treaty rights.

This new Government of Saskatchewan takes this duty very seriously. In fact we believe that it is more than just a duty. It is a true opportunity, an opportunity to ensure that First Nations and Métis people can more fully share in the economic prosperity of this province. That's why we promised in last fall's election campaign to hold this round table.

We heard the concerns of the First Nations and Métis people about the approach of the previous government. We heard them loud and clear. We knew how concerned they were that they were not consulted when the previous government developed and released their consultation guidelines. And we also heard industry call for more certainty. We considered all the concerns and committed to do something about it. This consultation round table is the very first step in that direction.

Mr. Speaker, First Nations, Métis, industry, and government will be at the round table. In fact representatives of these organizations have been sitting down together and planning the agenda for the two-day event. This new Government of Saskatchewan will be listening to what they have to say and will use what we have to hear to help craft a new approach, an approach that will benefit all of Saskatchewan people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: --- Hear, hear!

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

Mr. McCall: — With leave to respond to the ministerial statement, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — The member has asked for leave. Is it granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank the minister for providing me with a copy of her remarks before question period so that I might provide a more informed response.

Mr. Speaker, on this side of the House we've had a history of working in partnership with First Nations and Métis people. We freely embrace the responsibilities and benefits that arise from being treaty people.

The treaties are living documents, Mr. Speaker. They are signed for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the water flows. And certainly the treaties rest on human shoulders and their implementation rests with all levels of government and certainly with the signatories to those treaties, the First Nations of Canada. And they brought together the Crown, the First Nations, and they were signed under the Creator.

And there is a responsibility and a benefit that is to accrue to all parties in terms of signing of those covenants, those sacred documents.

And, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the implementation of those treaties, there was mutual benefit that was intended. That mutual benefit continues to be subject to evolution, to implementation over the years, and certainly sometimes that takes place in partnership through government-to-government relationships. Sometimes it takes place in the courts. The duty

to consult era of treaty implementation certainly arises from Supreme Court decisions, and we recognize on this side the responsibilities that arise from that to work through the duty to consult, what that means, and the certainty that it provides for all parties, Mr. Speaker.

So we look forward to what happens at the conference. We look forward with great interest to what happens at the conference. We note also with interest that the first part of it is open to the public and certainly we'll be there watching it very closely. The second day of the conference is closed to the public when the substantive discussions will be taking place. We note that with interest, Mr. Speaker, but I guess the main thing is that there's a benefit, a mutual benefit, that was intended by the treaties and it is our hope and our belief that this should be a historic opportunity to realize that benefit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Hart: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 6, The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007 without amendment.

The Speaker: — When shall this Bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — 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 has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 6, The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007, 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.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 6 — The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007

Hon. Mr. Norris: — 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 that Bill No. 6, The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007, be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — Actually I would ask all those in favour say aye.

Some Hon. Members: — Aye.

The Speaker: — All those opposed say no.

Some Hon. Members: - No.

The Speaker: — I believe the ayes have it. The motion is . . . Standing vote, call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 10:54 until 11:20.]

The Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is the Bill brought forward by the Minister Responsible for Advanced Education, Employment and Labour, that Bill No. 6, The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007 be now read the third time. Those in favour of the motion please rise.

[Yeas - 35]

Stewart	Elhard	Bjornerud
Draude	Krawetz	Boyd
Eagles	McMorris	D'Autremont
Hickie	Cheveldayoff	Heppner
Gantefoer	Harpauer	Norris
Morgan	Hutchinson	Huyghebaert
Brkich	Hart	Kirsch
Schriemer	Allchurch	Weekes
Chisholm	Wilson	Duncan
Michelson	LeClerc	Ottenbreit
Ross	Reiter	Bradshaw
Harrison	McMillan	

The Speaker: — Those opposed to the motion please rise. Order. Please allow the vote to proceed without interference.

[Nays — 18]

Calvert	Harper	Junor
Trew	Van Mulligen	Atkinson
Yates	Higgins	Belanger
Furber	Iwanchuk	Forbes
Morin	Taylor	Quennell
Broten	McCall	Wotherspoon

Clerk Assistant (Committees): — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the motion, 35; those opposed, 18.

Some Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — The motion carries.

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 House Services Committee.

Standing Committee on House Services

Mr. Taylor: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am instructed by the Standing Committee on House Services to report that it has considered certain estimates and to present its fourth report.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I move:

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

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair of the House Services Committee:

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

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. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — The House will move back to orders of the day and deal with the written questions.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Weekes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure on behalf of the government to table the answers to questions 628 to 649.

The Speaker: — Questions 628 to 649 tabled. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Gantefoer: — Now we try to adjourn, Mr. Speaker. 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. This Assembly adjourns until Monday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:25.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER	
Chisholm	
ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS	
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS	
Wotherspoon	
Ross	
Atkinson	
LeClerc	
Junor	
PRESENTING PETITIONS	
Higgins	
Iwanchuk	
Broten	
STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS	
Mother's Day	
Duncan	
World Lupus Day	
Quennell	
Art Auction for Regina & District Food Bank	
Ross	
Wings Over Wascana Nature Festival	
Van Mulligen	
Long-time Family Owners Sell Regina Beach Café	
Stewart	
Keepers of the Land	
Belanger	
Sherbrooke Nursing Home Experience	
Schriemer	
QUESTION PERIOD	
Nuclear Energy Development	
Atkinson	
Cheveldayoff	
Cost of Living in the North	
Belanger	
Cheveldayoff	
Draude	
Grain Transportation	
Harper	
Bjornerud	
Gas Prices and Election Promises	
Calvert	
Gantefoer	
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS	
Round Table Conference with First Nations and Métis People	
Draude	
McCall	
PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES	
Standing Committee on Human Services	
Hart	
Standing Committee on House Services	
Taylor	
THIRD READINGS	
Bill No. 6 — The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007	
Norris	
Recorded Division	
ORDERS OF THE DAY	
WRITTEN QUESTIONS	
Weekes	

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN CABINET MINISTERS

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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

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Hon. Christine Tell

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