



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

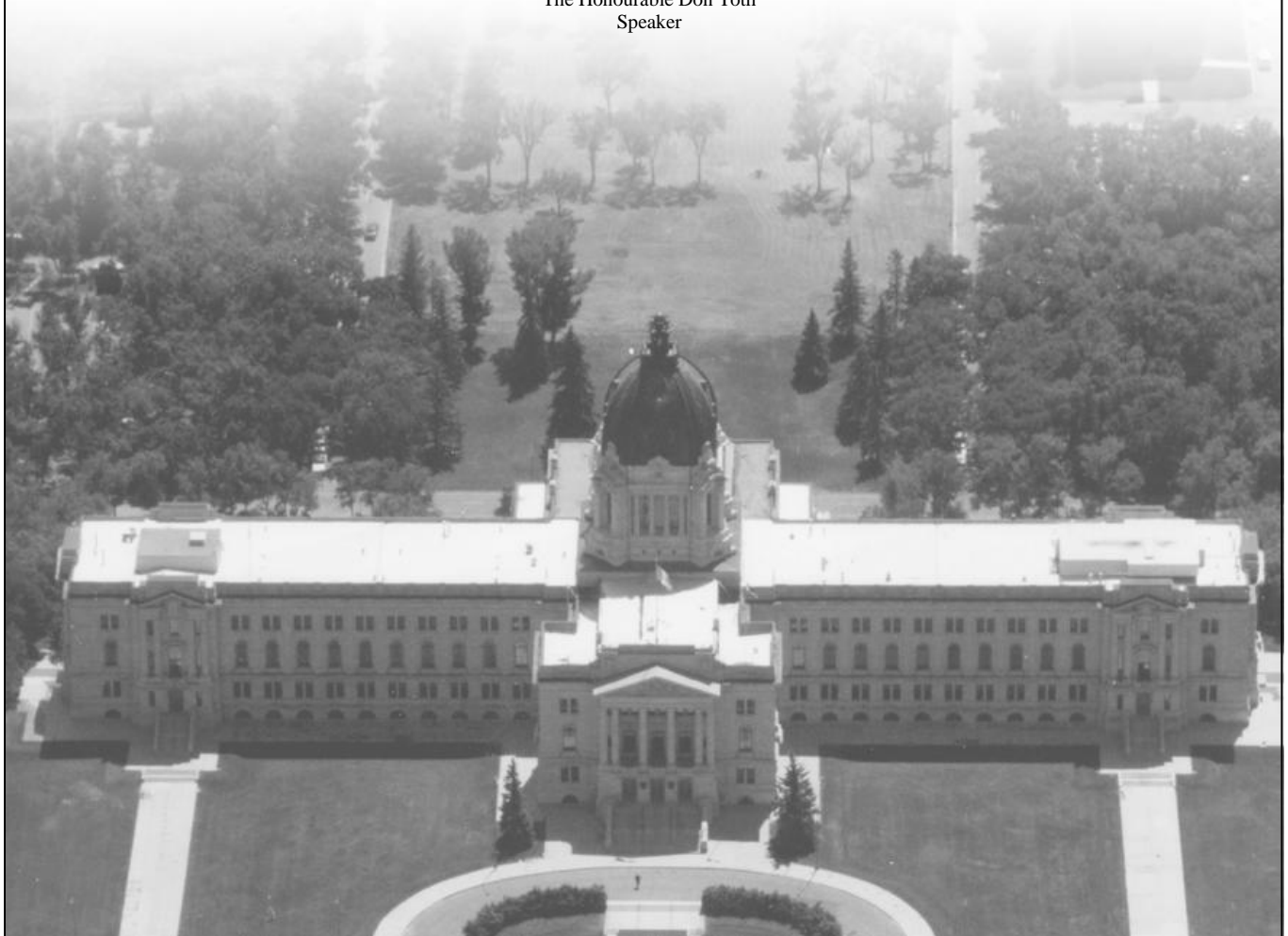
---

**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

---

(HANSARD)

Published under the  
authority of  
The Honourable Don Toth  
Speaker



**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**

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

<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
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
Brotten, 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
Gantfoer, 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	Regina Wascana Plains
Toth, Hon. Don	SP	Moosomin
Trew, Kim	NDP	Regina Coronation Park
Van Mulligen, Harry	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Yates, Kevin	NDP	Regina Dewdney

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as we can see in the gallery today, we have an awful lot of guests from the cadet organizations. And although too many to introduce all by name, I would just like to introduce them by their squadrons and corps and where they're from. And, Mr. Speaker, we have Air Cadet squadrons from Yorkton, Estevan, Regina, Nipawin, Swift Current, Oxbow, Indian Head, Saskatoon, Carlyle, and Melville. We also have Army Cadet corps from Regina, Moose Jaw, and Weyburn; Sea Cadet corps from Regina, Moose Jaw, and Swift Current; and Navy League Cadets from Regina.

Mr. Speaker, in the cadet organization there's a partnership between the Department of National Defence and the leagues, and I would like to introduce the league representatives here. Representing the Navy League is Mr. Don Landree. The Army League is Ms. Eddie Matthew. The Air Cadet League is represented by Gary Winkleman.

And there's some special introductions I would like to make, Mr. Speaker, and welcome to Rhonda Notschaele, who is basically the OPI [officer prime importance] for this — she had done a lot of work in organizing this whole event — and Major Peter Garton who is the detachment commander of the cadet detachment in Regina, a long-time friend and acquaintance of mine.

I have a couple of special introductions I'd like to make. One is to Flight Corporal Keith Putz of 702 Lynx Squadron in Saskatoon who's a nephew of our Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. Greg Putz. In addition I would also like to introduce Flight Corporal Beau Duckarmie. And Beau is from Estevan and Beau is the grandson of our member from Estevan.

So I'd ask all members, Mr. Speaker, to give a warm welcome to all of the cadet organization representation represented here today and to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, very briefly I want to echo the welcomes that we've just heard from the member for Wood River for our very, very special guests who are here today, and extend those welcomes on behalf of the province of Saskatchewan, the Government of Saskatchewan.

I'm not sure about the debate that's going to ensue here later this day, whether it'll be inspired or not, but if it isn't we have no one to blame but ourselves, because this is an inspiring group of young people that have joined us today who have

committed themselves to service and, frankly, in terms of organization, something and some ideals and principles a little bigger than themselves. And we want to salute them today, welcome them to their legislature, and also acknowledge the cadet leaders who put hours of work into making sure there are these great programs right across our province. We welcome them all to this Legislative Assembly today.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Ms. Higgins:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to join with my colleagues opposite and the Premier and really welcome the cadets here to the legislature today — and not only the cadets themselves, but the leaders and the league representatives that are here.

This is an extensive organization, and often one of the issues we deal with in Saskatchewan is a large province with our population from one end to the other. And this is one organization that covers the province and that has a huge impact on people and young people right across the width and breadth of our province. So it's a pleasure on behalf of the official opposition to welcome each and every one of you here today.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Provincial Secretary.

**Hon. Mr. Elhard:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly and other guests somebody who probably remembers when he was a cadet, but that's a fair time ago. I'm talking about Mr. Ken Simpkins. Mr. Speaker, it's an honour and a privilege for me to introduce this gentleman to the Assembly today as a special guest.

Mr. Simpkins is sitting in the Speaker's gallery. He's a veteran of World War II, and he grew up and still resides in the city of Moose Jaw and was a member of the 19th Field Regiment out of Kitchener, Ontario. The 19th Field Regiment, as you might recall, Mr. Speaker, was one of the first Canadian regiments that came ashore in the 1944 invasion of Normandy, better known as D-Day. And it's a pleasure for me to welcome him here today, and I ask all colleagues to extend that same warm welcome.

**Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I as well would like to welcome our cadets and our guests who have joined us today, and just out of courtesy to remind you that guests are not to participate in the debate in any form, whether clapping . . . And that's just the protocol. But I would suggest that the members on the floor, who are your voice and who represent you, may give their approvals later on as we enter into the debate.

So I just thank you for your recognition in honouring the tradition of the Assembly.

## PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Furber:** — Again I rise in support of public safety and security in Saskatchewan:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government, in the interest of safety and security of Saskatchewan families, residents, and communities, to immediately cause the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing to undertake a thorough consultation with a broad group of stakeholders — including the policing community, the corrections community, and community agencies, organizations, and educators that interface with gangs — and understand the risks and challenges that gangs present to our communities.

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

I so present.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**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 Saskatchewan families who are finding it difficult and often a struggle to be able to access or afford child care. And the petition reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to add at least 2,000 new child care spaces in Saskatchewan by 2011.

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

Mr. Speaker, the petitions are signed by citizens from Langham, Biggar, Perdue, Regina, and Saskatoon. I so present.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Iwanchuk:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present petitions on behalf of people opposing the cuts to Station 20 in Saskatoon, 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 as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

The petitions are signed by residents of Saskatoon. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned residents and business owners in support of a reduction in the education portion of property taxes. The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your Hon. Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to stop withholding and to provide significant, sustainable, long-term property tax relief to property owners by 2009 through significantly increasing the provincial portion of education funding.

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

And these are signed by good folks and concerned citizens here in Regina.

## STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Biggar.

## Remembrance Day

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I stand to give thanks to generations of brave Canadian souls who have fought for our freedom and the freedoms of those abroad. While Remembrance Day is to recall the brave deeds of generations past, we must also take this opportunity to support our sons and daughters who are fighting for peace in Afghanistan and those in peacekeeping operations around the globe.

The heroic actions of Canadian troops today show us that the spirit of service and sacrifice lives on in our soldiers. It is said that our nation came into its own through our actions in the Great War. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to see that Canada continues to serve with those same values when it comes to helping people around the world.

Mr. Speaker, 2008 represents the 90th anniversary of the end of World War I. To help us remember the war to end all wars, the Legislative Building is participating in a tribute honouring Canada's First World War dead. The names of tens of thousands of soldiers who died serving Canada in the war will be displayed on the front of the Legislative Building. Similar vigils are taking place all across Canada and even at Trafalgar Square in London.

I would like to invite people from all around our great province to take a trip to visit their local war memorial and solemnly remember those who gave their lives in the service of our values of peace and freedom. We shall never forget.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Quennell:** — Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, November 11 will

mark the 90th anniversary at the end of the Great War, called by some at the time the war to end all wars. It was not. It was the prelude to another great war which left the world in uneasy peace with many citizens still dreaming of freedom. But our freedoms and the freedoms of many others, including the freedom of many of our foes, were secured. As time passes, many thousands who fought and died in these conflicts are always at risk of being reduced to mere statistics.

As children in school learning “In Flanders Fields,” those struggles, hardships, and sacrifices could seem foreign and distant in the comfort and security that they brought us.

Wars were for other countries or for other times. How many of us could imagine that we could actually be called upon to provide such service, to hold the torch high, to keep the faith? How many of us could foresee that we could become the parents of veterans? But today and on Remembrance Day, the mothers who lay wreaths are not of our grandmothers’ generation but of our own.

There is no end of history. Today our young people are still called upon to take up the greatest responsibilities and make the greatest sacrifices. There is no end to history and there can be no end to remembrance.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Carrot River Valley.

#### **Honouring Canadian Cadet Corps**

**Mr. Bradshaw:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize a program that has played a key role in the lives of many young Canadians, myself included — the cadets. Mr. Speaker, this morning we have more than 360 young people in this building, many of them in this Chamber. They are shining examples of what it means to be a Canadian. They are members of the Air, Army, Sea, and Navy League Cadets, Mr. Speaker.

The cadet corps has played an important role in the lives of thousands of young people in Saskatchewan and Canada for close to 150 years. Mr. Speaker, by the end of World War I, there were 64,000 boys enrolled in the Army Cadet Corps. In 1940 the Air Cadets was formed. The cadet corps served proudly in World War II. And, Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that 230,000 cadets served in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the core values of the cadet program are loyalty, professionalism, mutual respect, and dignity. Through these values the young men and women in the cadet corps learn teamwork, citizenship, and leadership skills that last a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and thank all past and present cadets for their dedication and commitment to their home communities, Saskatchewan, and Canada. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### **2008 Prince Albert Women of Distinction**

**Mr. Furber:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Wednesday, October 22, the Prince Albert YWCA [Young Women’s Christian Association] held its Women of Distinction Banquet and honoured 12 deserving women.

Mr. Speaker, the following women are the recipients of the 2008 Prince Albert Women of Distinction Award: in the arts category, Judy McNaughton; recreation, sport, and active living, Heather Bravo; business and entrepreneurship, Pat Chuey. In the professional category, the recipient was Shona McArthur; in community enhancement, Jackie Packett; cultural enrichment, Vicky Wilson; science, technology and the environment, Lorette Bannerman; lifetime achievement, Marie Mathers-Ross.

Mr. Speaker, three young women received the Young Women in Volunteerism Award. They were Elizabeth Smyth, Megan Surkan, and Kaylee Lam. The 2008 SaskPower Roberta Bondar young women’s scholarship was presented to Lauren Ulyolt.

Mr. Speaker, all of these women are most deserving of this recognition and are true women of distinction. I ask that all members join with me in congratulating recipients of the 2008 Prince Albert Women of Distinction Award. Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[10:15]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Estevan.

#### **Sale of Agricultural Crown Lands**

**Ms. Eagles:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week there was welcome news here in Saskatchewan with the announcement of a new five-year program that will help put agricultural Crown land back in the hands of producers. 1.6 million acres will be eligible for sale under this program — nearly the size of Prince Edward Island — beginning on the 15th of this month. Mr. Speaker, agricultural lessees of Crown land have been asking for this kind of program for a very long time, but they were not heard by the previous government. Well, Mr. Speaker, we listened and we have taken action.

Dave Marit, the president of SARM [Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities], reflected, and I quote, “You’re looking after that property anyway, so now if you can retain ownership of it, it’s good news.”

And Jack Hextall of the Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association said quote “. . . it gives the producers the ability to add to the long-term stability of their land holdings . . .”

You heard it here, Mr. Speaker. It’s good news, and it adds to the long-term stability of producers. This program will help put the direction of agricultural economy back in the hands of producers. We committed to this in our first Throne Speech, and we are delivering on that promise, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, our government is committed to ensuring all Saskatchewan people share in the province’s new-found

prosperity. Through measures such as this, combined with historic tax cuts and debt reduction and the largest ever investment in infrastructure, we are working to make Saskatchewan stronger, and a strong Saskatchewan means a better life for everyone.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### **Wings Over Wascana Festival Receives Award**

**Mr. Van Mulligen:** — Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I was able to inform members about the Wings Over Wascana festival organized in Regina by the Friends of Wascana Marsh. Wings Over Wascana provides an opportunity each year for more than 200 students from grades 4 to 6 to participate in the festival and to get up close and personal with nature. For those children, nature becomes a real experience as opposed to a virtual experience. It is because of this work the Wings over Wascana festival has received the Lieutenant Governor's Greenwing Conservation Award.

The Greenwing Conservation Award recognizes individuals or groups who have demonstrated leadership in a project or activity that has raised awareness about wetland conservation in Saskatchewan. It is awarded annually and sponsored by Ducks Unlimited. In commenting on the award, Ducks Unlimited Canada Chairman Peter Carton said, "We chose the Wings Over Wascana Festival for this award because it gets young people right out into the marsh versus reading about it in a book."

Mr. Speaker, preserving what is left of our wetlands is a major challenge for our society. Wings Over Wascana, by educating our young people in the importance of nature, is helping to educate future generations to meet this challenge. Please join me in congratulating Friends of Wascana for the Wings Over Wascana festival and this significant achievement and for the good works they do every year to preserve our natural environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### **Implementation of Summit Recommendations**

**Mr. Hart:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, history teaches us that a society is measured by how it treats its most vulnerable. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be part of a government that also believes in this. This week our government is taking measures that will benefit low-income individuals and families as we move to implement the recommendations that came out of the most recent CBO [community-based organization] summits.

Mr. Speaker, we announced the historic \$76.9 million investment in programs and services for peoples with disabilities, Mr. Speaker, and we have committed to the creation of a separate income support program for them.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the income tax refunds created by our historic tax cut will not be clawed back for recipients that are on social assistance. We are also increasing the mileage rate for people on social assistance, and also we are increasing the heating allowance to help offset the increased costs.

Mr. Speaker, the CBOs also identified a need to better coordinate their services. To that end, we are assisting them with the establishment of a province-wide 211 telephone system and the creation of a website directory. We will also enter into a long-term funding arrangement with them.

Mr. Speaker, when we were elected we promised to listen to and not just talk to the CBOs. Mr. Speaker, we listened and now we are acting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

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

#### **Investment Strategy for the Crown Corporations**

**Mr. Trew:** — Mr. Speaker, the Sask Party has put up the for sale sign offering our 30 per cent stake in MRM [Muskeg River mine] cogeneration station. To the Minister of CIC [Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan]: is the MRM cogeneration station a profitable investment?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. member for the question. MRM cogen is a partnership that was entered into with the private sector by the previous government.

SaskPower has been operating that partnership at mostly a break-even basis. It's been marginally profitable in the past. And in light of our decision to make a Saskatchewan-first policy, I consulted with senior management in SaskPower and asked if this facility is necessary for the ongoing development of SaskPower in Saskatchewan, and have been told that really there is nothing more to be gained from ongoing relationships with that partnership. So at some point that will be divested of.

And money from investments like that and others across the Crowns will be invested back in Saskatchewan so SaskPower can meet the demands of a growing economy here in the province, one that will see the need for some 2,000 extra megawatts right here in our province. And it will ensure that SaskPower is able to deliver safe, securable, reliable power for Saskatchewan residents. That's what our Crowns will do, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Trew:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, from SaskPower's third quarter report of September 30 this year, and I quote, "In the first nine months of 2007, \$8 million in equity distributions have been received from the MRM Cogeneration Station."

Mr. Speaker, this investment is generating almost \$1 million a month for the people of Saskatchewan. If the minister sells this investment, where is he going to get that \$12 million a year from?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, SaskPower is a multi-billion dollar operation with many needs going forward, many capital needs, many infrastructure needs. It's well known in Saskatchewan that we have an infrastructure deficit as far as schools, as far as hospitals, as far as highways, but it maybe is not as well known that this government left an infrastructure deficit in the Crown corporations, the very corporations that they speak about in this House.

We have an infrastructure deficit in SaskTel. We have an infrastructure deficit in SaskPower, Mr. Speaker, and that's why this government will work hard to ensure that those corporations have the capital they need to go forward, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Trew:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, the minister didn't answer because I submit he has no answer for that question, where is he going to get the \$12 million from?

Mr. Speaker, from the Minister of CIC's very own report quote "Revenues were \$53.4 million higher than the budget of . . . [1.4 billion], as a result of increased sales volumes." The quote goes on: "Other revenue was also up due to better than expected MRM Cogeneration Station equity investment earnings."

This report has the signature of that very minister on the front of it — his own report is telling us that MRM cogeneration project is doing quote "better than expected."

To the minister: why is he selling an investment that is performing better than expected, and how is he going to make up for that lost \$12 million revenue?

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

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, I wasn't going to go here because it will be embarrassing for the members opposite: \$12 million is substantial, but more substantial is \$465 million that were invested by that government outside this province for a negative return, Mr. Speaker, a negative 22 per cent return.

People across Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, are asking

themselves, what if that \$465 million — if you use that SaskPower example — what if that was invested in hydro development in northern Saskatchewan? We would have hydro development today that would be in excess of . . . We wouldn't be envious of what Manitoba has done. Instead of investing outside the province, that money could have been used in this province, and that's a lesson that the members opposite should have learned by now.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Trew:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, the minister likes to refer to the KPMG study. Well he should actually read that quarter of a million dollar study. The KPMG study says on page 7 that the MRM cogeneration station has a 13.6 per cent return on investment, which is even above the target SaskPower had set.

So to the minister: this investment is not only meeting expectations, but it's beating expectations — the rate of return is 13.6. My question to the minister is simple. He considers himself a captain of industry. Does he have any personal investments that have a 13 per cent rate of return right now, and if he does, is he willing to sell them?

Mr. Speaker, will the minister today just admit that the bottom line means nothing to him and his colleagues? He is determined to sell off the profitable investments of the Crowns just to fulfill his ideological agenda.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm not going to talk about the personal returns of my RRSP [Registered Retirement Savings Plan] certainly on the floor of this legislature. Trying to just put that to the side for this month and for a while — as I'm sure all people are in Saskatchewan — but we know that those returns and those investments will come back, and there is some very, very strong investments to be made here in the province of Saskatchewan.

For example, Mr. Speaker, the upgrader that the members opposite privatized, had a positive return for the people of Saskatchewan. They saw fit to make sure that that investment was monetized, that money is redeployed for use here in the province. And I would suggest it's the right thing to do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, another investment that was made in the province of Saskatchewan, Saskferco. We don't hear much about that from members opposite. That was sold back in June. And giving . . .

**The Speaker:** — I'd ask members to allow the minister to respond.

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you make investments and they've reached their useful life, you

can monetize those investments and use that money to further develop the infrastructure in Saskatchewan, infrastructure that has been so lacking because of 16 years of NDP [New Democratic Party] neglect, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

### Support for Seniors

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday the Minister of Social Services was forced to apologize for what she called, and I quote, “a small clerical error that we corrected very quickly.”

She also called the opposition petty for pointing out that her news release of October 29 had been quietly altered without notice of that change being sent to the media. Mr. Speaker, the seniors we’ve talked to don’t think this is a petty matter. And the fact is she did not correct her error, instead she tried to rewrite history.

Mr. Speaker, to the minister: if this whole mess is truly just a small clerical error, why did the minister try to cover up her mistake by revising history?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — Order. Before I recognize the minister, I would also like to remind members to be careful in how they phrase their responses or words, to respect the integrity of members. I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And it’s with pleasure that I stand today to answer the member’s question because each and every time I get to re-announce one of the greatest announcements that we made in this government.

What we’ve done, Mr. Speaker — and I want to assure everyone — is we’ve doubled the benefit that is available for seniors in the SIP [seniors’ income plan] program.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — It is a 110 per cent increase. What else we’ve done, Mr. Speaker, is we’ve doubled the number of seniors that qualify for the benefit program. In addition that means 20,000 seniors will receive additional health benefits, Mr. Speaker.

So I am thrilled to stand, once again, to re-announce that. Maybe I could announce it 16 times to make up for the 16 years that the former NDP government totally ignored seniors in this province. You know, it’s easy to sit there and poke fun at a mistake. If you’re trying to calculate a zero increase, you don’t make any mistakes, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[10:30]

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know she’s trying to avoid what happened on Tuesday, but the truth is, the responsibility for her communications is hers alone.

In a media scrum on Tuesday, the minister was asked if there was any possibility that a single senior who makes \$5,000 a year wouldn’t qualify. She replied yes; that’s a possibility. Moments later she said no in a response to a question about whether the income cut-off could be as low as \$5,000. Meanwhile, yesterday’s media advisory says that the correct maximum income threshold for singles is \$16,313. To the minister: which figure is correct?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, as I told the media, the calculations for this program is quite complicated because the SIP through the province is calculated prior to any of the federal programs. The federal programs, the OAS [Old Age Security] is a constant amount, whereas the GIS [Guaranteed Income Supplement] is also a sliding amount. And it was in calculating the GIS where the mistake was made.

Mr. Speaker, like I said, the officials, to their credit, had to dust off the documents that explained how to do these calculations because they didn’t have to look at them for 16 years. For 16 years they didn’t have to understand how the whole program integrated with the federal programs.

So, Mr. Speaker, the good news is this is doubling the amount our seniors will — our most vulnerable seniors — will receive. And it’s doubling the number of seniors that qualify.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And of course the officials are very busy with all the work they had to do this week keeping up with the minister. It is the minister’s responsibility to understand the impact of the policies before she . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. Allow the member to place his question. Member from Saskatoon Centre.

**Mr. Forbes:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, it’s the minister’s responsibility to understand the impact of the policies before she announces them to the general public, and it’s her responsibility to correct any error she makes.

We have three different versions of her news release dated October 29. We’ve had several different sets of figures around the maximum allowable income thresholds; first for singles and, more recently, for couples too. We have a minister who doesn’t understand the difference between taxable income and other income.



Mr. Speaker, to the minister: why did she announce a new policy which she clearly didn't understand?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, our Premier as the leader has been very, very, very upfront that this government, if they discover a mistake, will fix it. We will not hide it for years. We will not bury it like SPUDCO [Saskatchewan Potato Utility Development Company] for six years and just cover it up.

So, Mr. Speaker, yes, the officials came forward and said there was a mistake made. Within the day, within the 24-hour period, we corrected it. And I apologize to those seniors that had the wrong information.

The good news is we doubled the number of seniors that qualify. We doubled the amount they got; we more than doubled the amount that they will receive. Does the member opposite care about the most vulnerable seniors in this province or not? Because I'll tell you, this government cares.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Mr. Speaker, the minister likes to talk about increases in benefits and that type of thing, but her government has imposed added costs on seniors like rising SaskEnergy rates or means testing for prescription drug coverage. And now the rising cost of housing means that many seniors are now worse off than they were before this government came to power.

Many seniors, Mr. Speaker, are turning to Sask Housing units for shelter this winter, and waiting lists are high in many parts of this province. Just to give an example, Mr. Speaker, to the minister: does she have any information on the waiting lists for seniors in Sask Housing units in Yorkton?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm quite amazed that the member opposite wants to go down this road, and he can do it by individual city if he wants. And he knows that he can access the specific information later by submitting a request.

However, Mr. Speaker, what he should know is that the waiting list in Saskatoon is down than it was over the four-year average from 2001 and 2004. Isn't that interesting, Mr. Speaker? Was that not when the NDP were in government?

You know, Regina — the two major cities, Saskatoon and Regina — Regina's numbers are significantly down from the statistics of 2001-2004. Go figure, Mr. Speaker. The NDP decided, we're not tracking it, so I can't even access the numbers after 2004 until this year, but that's because the numbers are down from where they were when they were

government.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — You know, Mr. Speaker, she can talk in general terms all she wants, but when she's talking to the individual senior who's worried about where they're going to be this year, facing SaskEnergy rates, that's a big issue.

Well we've been told that there's been approximately 80 seniors on the waiting list for Sask Housing units in Moose Jaw. And I mentioned in this House earlier about the waiting lists in Saskatoon and Regina, and each one of those seniors is important. At the same time, this government cut \$5 million out of the Sask Housing budget, and then nests on 60 per cent of an historic \$3 billion surplus. And she calls this action.

Mr. Speaker, to the minister: can she name one new seniors' housing project that she has initiated since becoming minister? Not one funded from money allocated by the previous government and carried forward, but something that she's done by herself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Social Services.

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Mr. Speaker, what the member's trying, the point he's trying to make so I'll help him out, the Sask Housing Corporation at the time of the election had money in the corporation. Has that money now been spent? Yes, it has, Mr. Speaker.

There are 205 units that have been completed. There are 429 units that are in construction. There are 180 units that are in the development of expression of interest. And, Mr. Speaker, there are 120 units that are the Aboriginal Trust Fund expression.

Mr. Speaker, some of the money that was in the Sask Housing Corporation, the federal government put it there. What should I do, Mr. Speaker? Say oh no, that was there before the election; let's not use it even though we have a housing crisis. That's ridiculous, Mr. Speaker. It's absolutely ridiculous.

So are we moving forward? But we announced a huge \$1.5 billion fund for infrastructure — housing falls there and just wait for the budget.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

#### Government's Performance

**Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a series of questions for the Premier this morning. Earlier this week we listened as the Minister of Government Services reported to the legislature that Heritage Gas was not a profitable investment.

I believe later that day, and clearly in the press the next day, the Minister Responsible for CIC reported to the people of Saskatchewan that in fact Heritage Gas is a profitable investment and is expected to remain profitable for 20 years.

My question to the Premier, Mr. Speaker, is this: in this contradiction between his ministers, which minister is right? Is Heritage Gas a profitable investment or not? Which of his ministers is right on this question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:** — The members opposite say, Mr. Speaker, they don't want to hear the facts, but I'm very happy to review the balance sheet of Heritage Gas. Heritage Gas has a net positive operating income of \$4.2 million. They have retained earnings of \$5.7 million. They have \$9 million deficiency in the capital in infrastructure account. So it's making some money; it's got a long way to go to make up the money. We have an investment of \$48 million, \$3 million of that is a loan guarantee that was made to customers of Heritage Gas. As you know, Heritage Gas is a partnership of SaskEnergy and Scotia Investments, the Jodrey family in Nova Scotia, as well as TransAlta public corporation.

We have indicated that we have a Saskatchewan-first policy here, Mr. Speaker, where we would like to at some point use that capital to bring it home, to extend SaskEnergy's reach into rural Saskatchewan, into northern Saskatchewan, across Saskatchewan for Saskatchewan people. That's what we intend to do with this investment, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Calvert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier's silence on this question tells me he cannot be very pleased with one of his ministers saying one thing and another minister saying something quite different. Again my question is to the Premier.

On Tuesday of this week, the Minister of Agriculture told this House that he would provide livestock producers with any program they wanted. Then yesterday, when confronted with a letter from those very producers seeking \$148 million in support, he said well no I will not. What he did in this House was to read press excerpts from Alberta. So then when questioned by the press, Mr. Speaker, this same Minister of Agriculture said well look, I said this in opposition, but I am not going to be doing that in government.

Well my question to the Premier is this: is he satisfied with a minister whose response is that I could say or do anything in opposition, but will do something quite different in government? Is the Premier pleased with that kind of response?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Agriculture.

**Hon. Mr. Bjornerud:** — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last day of the week, let's do a review for the Leader of the Opposition. I don't think he heard clearly what I had said earlier in the week. Let's do a review.

What we're doing for agriculture producers — whether you're on the grain side or the cattle side, hog side — number one, we've done a crop insurance review to improve a program that was totally gutted by the NDP when they were government. AgriStability, we're working bringing the administration of that back to Saskatchewan so that responds to producers in a timely fashion. Farm and ranch water infrastructure program in the southwest — an area that that NDP opposition totally neglected when they were in power for 16 years. Gopher rebate program, we're putting money back in the hands of producers who can't afford the total cost of strychnine and other baits out there right now. We were asked for a hog loan program and a cattle program. We did that, Mr. Speaker — \$90 million. Mr. Speaker, I'll put our record up any time in the first year in power against what the NDP did for 16 years.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, well again the Premier's silence tells me he cannot be pleased with the attitude taken by his Minister of Agriculture.

Also this week, Mr. Speaker, we have been requesting from the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety some very rudimentary, simple information. We've asked him to provide for this legislature and the people of Saskatchewan the emails or written copies of the policy which clearly is not working, a policy which he clearly cannot seem to implement.

My question is to the Premier: is he satisfied with a minister who will not provide this basic information to the legislature and to the people of Saskatchewan — by the way, Mr. Speaker, the same minister who told us that there was no gang activities in the jails.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the hon. member for his series of questions. The theme here is, the theme of his questions is this: am I . . .

**The Speaker:** — Order. Order. The Premier has the right to be heard. I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Am I satisfied with a Saskatchewan-first policy in our Crown corporations that says we ought to put a priority in Alida, Saskatchewan instead of Atlanta, Georgia as the NDP did? You bet I am, Mr. Speaker.

Am I satisfied, Mr. Speaker, with a government and with a minister that has said rural Saskatchewan must be and will be a priority of the Government of Saskatchewan? Am I satisfied with a Minister of Agriculture who has said we've got to fix the crop insurance program that we inherited in a bad state from the

members opposite? Am I satisfied, Mr. Speaker, with a government and a minister that says we've got to focus on the education property tax in the city and in the country, unlike members opposite who were going to ignore farmers with their plan for property tax? You bet I'm satisfied, Mr. Speaker.

Am I satisfied with a policy in corrections that says above all else, we're going to put public safety first? We're going to notify the public when someone who is dangerous is on the streets, unlike what happened under the previous administration. Mr. Speaker, you bet I'm satisfied.

We can always do better. We are determined to do better, but we are making progress in the province of Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

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

**Mr. Calvert:** — Mr. Speaker, on this point I can agree with the Premier. They sure can do better. Mr. Speaker, we've got, we've got evidence . . .

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[10:45]

**Mr. Calvert:** — We've got evidence in this week of a minister who will not provide fundamental information to the legislature. We've heard a Minister of Social Services who issues three separate press releases on one day to get the story straight. By the way, Mr. Speaker, when we introduced the universal health care plan, drug plan for seniors, we didn't need to issue three news releases to explain. We've got the Minister of Agriculture saying it's one thing I can say in opposition; I'd do something quite different in government. We've got ministers contradicting themselves in this legislature this week about the value of an asset of this province.

I want to quote, Mr. Speaker, from a journalist who wrote to the people of Saskatchewan in a journal:

Governing has to be more than feel-good announcements related to football and raking in money from oil royalties.

You need to have ministers . . . [with] at least a rudimentary ability to handle their portfolio.

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Premier. Obviously this cabinet engine of his is not firing on all cylinders. My question is, what is he going to do to tune this organization up?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Well, Mr. Speaker, in terms of tune-ups, Mr. Speaker, I am mindful of the fact that we are approaching November 7. I am mindful of the fact that we are approaching the anniversary of a date when the people of the province of Saskatchewan gave members opposite a tuning up, Mr. Speaker, of some significant proportion.

And what has happened since in the Government of Saskatchewan? Well, I tell you what. We're paying off the debt at \$5,000 a minute. In our first year we'll have reduced the debt by 40 per cent, Mr. Speaker. That's what's happening in the province of Saskatchewan.

We've made record investments in infrastructure — \$1.5 billion compared to their \$600 million in their last year. That's what's happening in the province of Saskatchewan. Record tax relief for Saskatchewan people — the biggest in history — made retroactive to the beginning of this year. That's unheard of, but that's what's happening in the province of Saskatchewan today.

Mr. Speaker, compare that with a record of inaction and a record, Mr. Speaker, on issues like Murdoch Carriere and SPUDCO that speak to a government that had its priorities wrong. And I don't think they've learned their lesson. The good news, Mr. Speaker, is they're over there and the people's government is on this side of the House.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### Bill No. 601 — *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the member for Wood River that Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act* be now introduced and read a first time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — First reading of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — When shall the Bill be read a second time? I recognize the member from Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Mr. Speaker, with leave of the Assembly, immediately.

**The Speaker:** — The member has asked for leave that the Bill be now read a second time. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

## PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

### SECOND READINGS

**Bill No. 601 — *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act***

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to move second reading of *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act, 2008*.

First off, I'd like to give a thank you to the people that were totally involved with this. I've mentioned the detachment commander Major Peter Garton, and Captain Rhonda Notschaele. I'd also like to pay recognition to our own caucus person that was so much involved in this, is Lara Zaluski.

I'd also like to thank all of the cadets and the cadet instructors and the civilians associated with the leagues to be here today for this Bill. I think it's very appropriate to see so many young men and women in when we introduce this Bill to recognize the cadets. And, Mr. Speaker, this Bill will recognize the long and noble history of the cadet corps.

In addition to the important role that the cadet organization has meant to thousands of young people for close to 150 years, it's really with a sense of duty, pride, and honour that I stand in the House today to speak about the cadet organization. As we know, the cadet organization is a partnership between the civilian leagues, the Air, Army, Sea and Navy Cadets, and the Department of National Defence.

Mr. Speaker, I think it's appropriate to look back at a little bit of the history of the cadets in Canada. It started out in 1862 as drill associations. It progressed from there. In fact in the earlier days it was from ages 13 to age 60, and it wasn't until 1879 that the formation of Association for Drill in Educational Institutions was first introduced, and that separated the concept of militia from the cadets, for young men over 14 could join the cadets.

By 1887 the name cadet corps was recognized for organization providing training to boys over age 12.

In 1895 the Navy League of Canada, which was the early Sea Cadets, was founded. The cadet instructor cadre, who are the men and women who really provide the instruction and supervision for the cadets, was founded in 1909. So, Mr. Speaker, they will be celebrating their centennial next year.

Mr. Speaker, by the end of World War I, there were 64,000 boys enrolled in the Army Cadet Corps. In that time frame also, the Navy League was authorized the creation of the girls' navy brigades.

World War II brought a renewed interest to the cadet program and the Air Cadets were formed in 1940, with an enrolment of about 29,000 cadets by the end of the war. Many female cadets were involved but only in an unofficial capacity. After World War II in recognition of their contribution, His Majesty King George VI conferred the title royal to the program, creating the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets, the Royal Canadian Army Cadets, and the Royal Canadian Air Cadets.

In the '60s, Sea and Air Cadets came more fully under the control of the Canadian Forces in order to standardize the three cadet organizations. A directorate of cadets was established in Ottawa to set policy and coordinate the activities of the three

cadet organizations — the Sea, Army, and Air.

The Army Cadet League of Canada was formed in 1971 in order to give the Army Cadets a civilian voice comparable to that of the Navy League and the Air Cadet League.

While girls have participated in the cadet program since almost the beginning, it was not until July 30, 1975, before parliament amended legislation by changing the word boys to persons, and since that time the cadet program has enjoyed a tremendous amount of young females in the program.

Mr. Speaker, we look at the cadet program, and we often get asked about the association with the military. Well the program itself is designed to develop leadership and good citizenship, promote physical fitness, and although it is partnered with the military, there's no obligation by young men and women to have any part of becoming a member of the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague earlier talked about some of the core values of the cadets and it's worth repeating. The core values are loyalty, professionalism, mutual respect, and integrity. And I'd like to just talk a little bit about each one of those.

With loyalty, it is the expression of dedication to the ideals of the cadet movement and all its members. Professionalism, the accomplishment of tasks with pride and diligence. Mutual respect is the treatment of others with dignity and equality. And integrity, the courage and commitment to exemplify trust, sincerity, and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, in my previous life I had the great pleasure of being a senior staff officer cadets at Air Command headquarters in Winnipeg from 1992 to 1994. During that time frame I became extremely familiar and hands-on with the cadet program. The prairie region cadets which I was in charge of actually encompassed Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northwestern Ontario, so I really got a first-hand look at the workings of the cadet program. But the big thing that I gained from that period of time was seeing how it affected our young men and women who were part of the program. You recognized the teamwork. You recognized the leadership gained by these young men and women. And they all worked toward a goal of citizenship.

After my retirement from the military, I also had the opportunity to be the commanding officer of the Cold Lake Air Cadet Summer Training Centre. And I'm sure a lot of our cadets in the gallery today have spent time at the Cold Lake training facility. There, there was a senior leaders' course where again young men and women came to study leadership and really, really broaden the scope of their own particular lives. What these young men and women accomplished there, they did have a sense of accomplishment.

They worked very closely with their peers. It was an experience. And dealing with the cadets at that time, it was an experience that was a lifelong experience for them. They made friendships that would last a lifetime. And in the course of the program, the six-week program, you saw the camaraderie. You saw the cadets working together. You saw how they integrated and really stood up for each other.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity there to be confronted by an individual. He said, you treat the cadets pretty rough at this camp that you have them parading through all hours of the evening, up till 10 o'clock at night. And being a new person on the camp, I said, I will look into it. And they were right. But I talked to my staff and they said, come and look at this. We had a drill team that comprised of approximately 50 people, and out of 310 cadets we had 300 that volunteered for that drill team. And that meant that every night they were out on the parade square practicing because they wanted to be part of the drill team. It sure wasn't directed by us.

We had parades on Saturday morning, and parade positions were quite sought after. And again these 310 cadets, I think we had 290 of them tried out for the parade positions. That meant that they were working late, late evenings to try and make the parade positions. So I went back to this mother and I said, you know, you were right. They do work late at night, but it's at their own choosing. They wanted to do that. They wanted to be part of a team. They wanted to be part of an organization where they could display their skills.

Mr. Speaker, there is a number of programs within the cadet organization that I think we are all just so extremely proud of. We look at, from the navy side, the sailing that's available. From the army side there's mountaineering, there's abseiling. There's a number of programs that the cadets can aspire to. On the air side we look at flying scholarships, we look at gliding scholarships. And these are very high-value courses that are much sought after, and I can assure everyone that the competition for these is extremely keen and it's extremely tough because we have so many great cadets in the organization.

Just as a side note to the cadets, in my first tour on the Snowbirds as a solo pilot, out of nine pilots — the 1 to 9 pilots — we had three of those pilots that had their start in the cadets, and they would attribute their success to the cadet program. When I had the opportunity to go back as the team lead, lo and behold, once again, three of our 1 to 9 pilots had their start in the cadet organization. So I think that leaves it open for cadets to look at the sky is the limit. Make your choosing and go for it.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation honours the more than a century of service by the cadet corps. The young men and women who belong to the air, army, and navy sea cadets are a testament to the integrity and character of the next generation. Through the cadet organization, society is investing in today's youth, as well as Saskatchewan and Canada's future.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the declaration that we have put forward in the Bill and the declaration reads:

The first Saturday in November in each year is declared to be Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day in Saskatchewan.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

[11:00]

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — With that, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to move second reading of *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League*

*Cadets Recognition Day Act.*

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The member from Wood River has moved that Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act* be now read a second time. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

I recognize the member from Moose Jaw Wakamow.

**Ms. Higgins:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I'd really like to just join in and offer some comments on behalf of the opposition on the Bill that's before us today, No. 601, the Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets in Saskatchewan, and really ends with the declaration that the member opposite just read into the record.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think there's any doubt that cadets have and continue to have a huge impact on young people right across the province of Saskatchewan. And I would just like to repeat that that's one of the things that has hit home for me, and especially today when we look at the number of cadets that are here and the organizations that are represented, and we look at the list of cadets that was given to each of us to see the communities that they represent right across Saskatchewan. That's important.

It's not always easy to accomplish, but it's important when we see that these are organizations that pay particular attention to young people right across Saskatchewan and provide some very important opportunities. One part of the Bill that the member referred to, speaking to the organization helps young women and men to develop self-confidence, self-esteem, and teamwork that encourages them to become active, responsible members of their communities.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, in attending events with cadets in Moose Jaw a number of times, when you see the cadets, each session they progress. And I've actually seen those words in action. I've seen cadets that have been struggling to keep up with all of the commands that are coming out and looking a little bit awkward, but within a very short period of time you can see the confidence build in those cadets. You can see their self-esteem. You can see the camaraderie that the member spoke about. It's truly visible.

Well this organization, the cadet organization across the province has a huge impact. We also will see cadets growing, but we also see proud parents and grandparents in the audience that take a great deal of pride in coming to see their family member and how cadets have benefited them.

I'd also like to pass along a huge thank you to the instructors, the Canadian Forces personnel that are involved — sometimes more than part-time — with cadets in their community, and also the league and the league administrators and instructors and directors that spend countless hours travelling from community to community across our province and give so much to these young people in the work that they do.

Mr. Speaker, it's a very nice day to see this Bill being tabled and to have the House unanimous and being able to move the

Bill forward today. And, Mr. Speaker, when you've seen the cadets in action and when you hear their core values and principles, we know that not only the cadets benefit from this organization, but our families benefit, our communities benefit, our province benefits, and also the country of Canada benefits. Thank you very much.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to also enter into this debate — that we are about to have a unanimous vote in support of Bill 601 — with just a few comments, if I may, on behalf of the province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to again welcome the cadets who have joined us today. Through you, through the Chair, a welcome to all of them and the cadet leaders and others who have joined us for this very special day.

The service that we held this morning in this legislature, aided by our public service and public sector unions, our service of remembrance that is an annual service here was enhanced today by the third-floor presence of so very many cadets along the rail, and then at the laying of the wreath at the memorial here on the legislative grounds. What an honour it was to have an honour guard — that great line of cadets who were there to make the wreath laying and that moment even more special. So we say to them, thank you very, very much.

I have a few comments to make on cadets in general and on this Bill, but I'd be remiss if I didn't first begin by saying, Mr. Speaker, in acknowledging the support of the opposition and thanking the hon. member for Riversdale, the Leader of the Opposition, and through him his party, his members for making this day happen and agreeing to unanimous support. I think it's obviously appreciated and so we want to say for the record, thank you for that.

And I would also be remiss if I didn't open up by acknowledging that gentleman, that hon. member who really brought forward this initiative, the hon. member for Wood River. Modesty would prevent him from saying a lot of the things that I will share with you very briefly about his bio. But it is important I think that we in this room, including the cadets who've gathered, know a little bit more about the member for Wood River who has sponsored this Bill.

By the way, this Bill will be unique in the country — the only one like it as far as we know in all of Canada to honour cadets, to set aside a day to honour cadets in the cadet program. That's the pioneering work of the member for Wood River.

He was enrolled in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1961, selected for pilot training, received his wings in 1968, posted to 421 Strike Attack Squadron in Germany, served as a member of the embassy staff in Washington, DC [District of Columbia] to consult with the United States on the newly acquired CF-18 or F-18 Hornet.

And if you can ever manage the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, and to all members of this House, if you can encourage the member

for Wood River to share with you some of the stories around either his time in Germany or especially this time when the country — the Trudeau administration — was purchasing F-18s for our air force and we were trying to make sure they were suitable for our needs, and that the transaction proceeded smoothly, he has some great stories to tell. I think enough time has lapsed, he probably can . . . I think most of them are declassified and they're all pretty entertaining actually, as well.

He is most well known of course as a team leader for the Snowbirds — very well known across this province. And we as his colleagues hear about that all the time.

And in 1987, Her Excellency Jeanne Sauvé invested him in the Order of Military Merit for exceptional service with the Canadian Forces. And we've also heard him detail himself his own involvement — very direct involvement — in cadets.

And so again I say to the hon. member, on behalf of this House and cadets who are here, cadets of the future, the cadet leaders, we say thank you for your service to the country and your dedication to cadets.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — The member for Wood River is just one example of people who are involved in public life, different vocations and avocations, who can trace some of the things that they learned and the reasons for their success later in life to cadets.

His Honour Dr. Gordon Barnhart, as you will know, Mr. Speaker, the Lieutenant Governor is very proud of the fact that he was a Saskatchewan air cadet. And we had a chance to talk today as we walked to the memorial about his time in Saltcoats and his participation in remembrance services as an air cadet.

The hon. member for Cannington, our Minister of Government Services, was a proud member of the 675 Air Cadet Squadron in Oxbow. These individuals of course have become involved very much in public life and have carried on this spirit of service that, if you asked them, they would learn in part certainly from cadets.

Back in June, I attended a banquet honouring 19 young men and women at 605 Tarry Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron in my hometown of Swift Current. The squadron has been in continuous operation, Mr. Speaker, for 53 years — 53 years and extremely active still in our community. I was there and had a chance to meet Major Garton, Major Pete Garton. We had a chance to sit together at the head table, and I want to tell the member for Wood River that it is his misfortune that Major Garton was prepared to share some stories about him, and they will come out in due course, Mr. Speaker. There are a lot of stories, and he has a lot of anecdotal evidence, does Major Garton. And we also want to acknowledge and thank him for his leadership in the cadet program.

He points out that while he was a flying instructor at Portage la Prairie and Moose Jaw, he would ask every flying course that came through how many of them had been through cadets. And half the class, he says, would inevitably, about half, raise their hands.

There are many famous cadets from our province who've gone on to amazing things. Captain Mike Jellinek . . . And this comes from Major Garton. Captain Mike Jellinek from Estevan — there you go, Beau — was the officer in charge at the NORAD [North American Aerospace Defence Command] command centre on the September 11, 2001, if you can imagine the weight of the duties that he faced that day. And I'm sure drew again on the principles and the things that he learned as a result of the cadet program.

So we say to the young women and men who have joined us today, we congratulate you on your involvement in cadets. And we encourage that it would continue, and we would encourage that you would take all these things you are learning in cadets and apply them as you get older, because they will not let you down.

We are very honoured to rise today in support of Bill 601. As has been pointed out, the Bill quote: “. . . recognizes, honours, salutes, and celebrates the tremendous contribution of Air, Army, Sea, and Navy League Cadets in the province of Saskatchewan.”

Aristotle said, Mr. Speaker, that “In the arena of life the honours and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action” — not have those good qualities, but show them and demonstrate them in action. And it strikes me and all of us here today that that is precisely what cadets are all about. I want to again acknowledge everyone who has joined us today and close with the comments today made today by Cadet Warrant Officer First Class Ashley Clark of the 34 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron. She, I think, said it all when she said:

Provincial Cadet Day will give the public a chance to recognize the hard work and dedication of all of those involved in the cadet organization.

This day will give the cadets an opportunity to be seen as a positive influence on today's society.

Congratulations to Ashley and all her fellow cadets for their involvement and their participation here today. We look forward to the Royal Assent of Bill 601. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!

**The Speaker:** — The question before the Assembly is the motion moved by the member for Wood River that Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*, be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried.

**Clerk:** — Second reading of this Bill.

**The Speaker:** — To which committee shall this Bill be referred? I recognize the member from Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I designate that Bill 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act* be referred to the Committee of the Whole and request leave for the said Bill to be considered in Committee of the Whole immediately.

**The Speaker:** — The Bill stands referred to the Committee of the Whole and the member from Wood River has requested leave for Bill No. 601, the air, army, sea and navy league to be considered in the Committee of the Whole immediately. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Clerk:** — Committee of the Whole.

**The Speaker:** — I do now leave the Chair for the Assembly to go into Committee of the Whole.

[11:15]

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY

##### Bill No. 601 — *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*

**The Chair:** — The item for business before the committee is Bill 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*. Clause 1, therefore the short title, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*. Is clause 1 agreed?

[Clause 1 agreed to.]

[Clauses 2 and 3 agreed to.]

[Preamble agreed to.]

**The Chair:** — Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as following: *An Act to Recognize the Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets in Saskatchewan*. Is that agreed to?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried. I recognize the member from Wood River.

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — Mr. Chair, I move that the committee report the Bill without amendment.

**The Chair:** — It is moved by the member from Wood River that the committee rise, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again. Is that agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Chair:** — Carried.

[The Speaker resumed the Chair.]

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. Brkich:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the committee to report Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act* without amendment.

**The Speaker:** — When will this Bill be read the third time? I recognize the member from Wood River.

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

**The Speaker:** — The member from Wood River has requested leave for Bill No. 601, the air, army, sea and navy league be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Leave has been granted. I recognize the member from Wood River.

### THIRD READINGS

**Bill No. 601** — *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*

**Mr. Huyghebaert:** — 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 member from Wood River that Bill No. 601, *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day 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.

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

**The Speaker:** — When shall the committee sit again?

**Hon. Ms. Harpauer:** — Next sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Next sitting. I just want to remind the House that His Honour is here to approve the Bill.

### ROYAL ASSENT

[At 11:22 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber, took his seat upon the throne, and gave Royal Assent to the following Bill.]

**His Honour:** — Pray be seated.

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

**Clerk:** — Your Honour, the Bill is as follows:

Bill No. 601 - *The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act*.

**His Honour:** — In Her Majesty's name, I assent to this Bill.

[His Honour retired from the Chamber at 11:23.]

**The Speaker:** — Please be seated.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Government Whip.

**Mr. Weekes:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the answers to question 87 through 92.

**The Speaker:** — Questions 87 through 92 tabled. I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

**Mr. Taylor:** — Thanks, Mr. Speaker. I rise to seek leave of the Assembly to move a motion of leave of absence.

**The Speaker:** — The member has asked for leave to move a motion of absence. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed.

### MOTIONS

#### Leave of Absence for Member

**Mr. Taylor:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Therefore by leave of the Assembly, I would move:

That leave of absence be granted to the member for Regina Walsh Acres for Monday, November 3 to Wednesday, November 5 inclusive to attend the annual meeting of the Partnership of Parliaments in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on behalf of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — The Opposition House Leader has moved, by leave of the Assembly:

That leave of absence be granted to the member for Regina Walsh Acres from Monday, November 3 to Wednesday, November 5 inclusive to attend the annual meeting of the Partnership of Parliaments in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on behalf of this Assembly.

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. Gantfoer:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate the members to participate in the rest of the cadet recognition program, I move this House do now adjourn.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Agreed. Carried. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 11:26.]



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS</b>	
<b>INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS</b>	
Huyghebaert .....	1607
Wall .....	1607
Higgins .....	1607
Elhard .....	1607
<b>PRESENTING PETITIONS</b>	
Furber .....	1608
Higgins .....	1608
Iwanchuk .....	1608
Wotherspoon .....	1608
<b>STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS</b>	
<b>Remembrance Day</b>	
Weekes .....	1608
Quennell .....	1608
<b>Honouring Canadian Cadet Corps</b>	
Bradshaw .....	1609
<b>2008 Prince Albert Women of Distinction</b>	
Furber .....	1609
<b>Sale of Agricultural Crown Lands</b>	
Eagles .....	1609
<b>Wings Over Wascana Festival Receives Award</b>	
Van Mulligen .....	1610
<b>Implementation of Summit Recommendations</b>	
Hart .....	1610
<b>QUESTION PERIOD</b>	
<b>Investment Strategy for the Crown Corporations</b>	
Trew .....	1610
Cheveldayoff .....	1610
<b>Support for Seniors</b>	
Forbes .....	1612
Harpauer .....	1612
<b>Government's Performance</b>	
Calvert .....	1613
Cheveldayoff .....	1614
Bjornerud .....	1614
Wall .....	1614
<b>INTRODUCTION OF BILLS</b>	
<b>Bill No. 601 — <i>The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act</i></b>	
Huyghebaert .....	1615
<b>PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS</b>	
<b>SECOND READINGS</b>	
<b>Bill No. 601 — <i>The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act</i></b>	
Huyghebaert .....	1616
Higgins .....	1617
Wall .....	1618
<b>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY</b>	
<b>Bill No. 601 — <i>The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act</i> .....</b>	
1619	
<b>THIRD READINGS</b>	
<b>Bill No. 601 — <i>The Air, Army, Sea and Navy League Cadets Recognition Day Act</i></b>	
Huyghebaert .....	1620
<b>ROYAL ASSENT .....</b>	
1620	
<b>ORDERS OF THE DAY</b>	
<b>WRITTEN QUESTIONS</b>	
Weekes .....	1620
<b>MOTIONS</b>	
<b>Leave of Absence for Member</b>	
Taylor .....	1620

# GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN CABINET MINISTERS

---

**Hon. Brad Wall**  
Premier

**Hon. Bob Bjornerud**  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister Responsible for 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 Gantfoer**  
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 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 Capital City Commission