



SECOND SESSION - TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

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The Honourable Don Toth
Speaker



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Speaker — Hon. Don Toth
 Premier — Hon. Brad Wall
 Leader of the Opposition — Dwain Lingenfelter

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
Brotten, Cam	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Chartier, Danielle	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Chisholm, Michael	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
D'Autremont, Dan	SP	Cannington
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Hon. Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, 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, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Higgins, Deb	NDP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Hutchinson, Hon. Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, Hon. D.F. (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
Lingenfelter, Dwain	NDP	Regina Douglas Park
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, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu'Appelle Valley
Schriemer, Joceline	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Stewart, 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
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]

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Speaker: — I hereby inform the Assembly that the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly has received from the Acting Chief Electoral Officer a certificate of the election and return of Dwain Lingenfelter, a member for the constituency of Regina Douglas Park and a certificate of the election and return of Danielle Chartier, as a member for the constituency of Saskatoon Riversdale. I hereby table the return of the writs.

Ms. Higgins: — Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present to you, Dwain Lingenfelter, member for the constituency of Regina Douglas Park, who has taken the oath and signed the roll and now claims his right to take a seat.

The Speaker: — Mr. Lingenfelter, as you take your rightful place in this Legislative Assembly, I'm sure your time here will be one that serves as a record of honour to yourself and your constituents. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Let the hon. member take his seat.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

Mr. Lingenfelter: — I have the honour to present to you, Danielle Chartier, member for the constituency of Saskatoon Riversdale, who has taken the oath and signed the roll and now claims her right to take a seat.

The Speaker: — Ms. Chartier, as you take your rightful place in this Legislative Assembly, I'm sure that your time here will be one that serves as a record of honour to yourself and your constituents. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. Let the hon. member take her seat.

Hon. Members: — Hear, hear!

The Speaker: — Members, I am advised that his Honour is here for prorogation.

PROROGATION

[At 10:05 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Honour was then pleased to deliver the following speech.]

Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly.

It is my duty to release you from further attendance at the Second Session of the Twenty-Sixth Legislature.

In thus relieving you, I would like to thank you for the work done and the progress made.

The past year has been one of global economic uncertainty. Although Saskatchewan has not been immune from these events, our province has remained strong.

Members of this Assembly should be very proud that in two years, the provincial debt has been reduced by almost 40 percent.

In this session, the largest personal income tax reduction in Saskatchewan's history was made. Because of this decision, 80,000 people will no longer pay provincial income taxes in the province.

A new low income tax credit was introduced to assist those who already pay no tax in Saskatchewan.

In this session's budget, the government made an unprecedented investment in infrastructure and in our province's future.

The budget included the largest education property tax cut ever in Saskatchewan. This reduced the overall amount of tax paid by property owners to fund education by \$103 million while increasing K-12 education funding by \$241 million.

Legislation was passed that saw the creation of Innovation Saskatchewan. This new agency will assist in coordinating, focusing and supporting research activities in our province.

Innovation Saskatchewan will enhance this province's competitiveness and productivity, ensuring growth and prosperity now and in the future.

The commitment to a long-term revenue sharing deal with municipalities has been fulfilled through the new Municipal Operating Grants program. This will help municipalities meet the needs of their communities.

Members should be proud of their commitment to provide support to the province's most vulnerable citizens.

For years, people and groups across Saskatchewan have asked for a distinct funding mechanism for loved ones and friends living with disabilities. The wait is now over. A new, dignified, less intrusive income support program was put in place this session for those with disabilities in the province.

The Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations are working together to implement Jordan's Principle. This child first approach will ensure the health and well-being of First Nation children with multiple disabilities in Saskatchewan take priority over questions of jurisdiction and responsibility of payment for services and health care.

This session saw the first increase to the Seniors Income Assistance Plan since 1992. These changes will more than double the monthly benefit and double the number of seniors receiving these benefits. Our seniors built this great province and we must provide them with the support they need to live long, happy lives.

The health of our people is of primary importance. That is why the Patient First Review was launched last year. The recommendations of this review were released last week and it is clear that more work must be done to make sure patients are

put first.

The environment is of significant importance to the people of Saskatchewan. That is why a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent below 2006 levels by 2020 was introduced last spring.

The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act was introduced in the last session. The legislation establishes a made-in-Saskatchewan plan for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to meet provincial targets and promote investments in low-carbon technologies.

Our highways are the infrastructure that links Saskatchewan communities together and with communities outside our borders. A five-year rolling plan for highway renewal was released in the last year. Safe, well maintained highways will create a strong future of our province.

Saskatchewan farmers and agricultural producers helped lay the foundations for Saskatchewan. Support programs are important to their future success. Agri-Stability, the former CAIS program, has been brought home to Saskatchewan from Ottawa and will be housed in Melville.

Members took action to make sure criminals cannot profit from their crimes by passing *The Seizure of Criminal Property Act* and *The Profits of Criminal Notoriety Act*.

Members of this Legislative Assembly should be very proud of introducing the Saskatchewan Scholarship of Honour. This scholarship recognizes men and women serving in the Canadian Forces and their families. All returning military personnel, as well as sons and daughters of soldiers killed in the line of duty are eligible for \$5,000 scholarships.

In this session, you have made sure Saskatchewan remains strong in light of global events and uncertainty. Fiscal prudence and wise investments in our province will allow Saskatchewan to continue on this strong path.

Finally, in taking leave of you, I wish to thank you for the diligent manner in which you have devoted your energies to the activities of this session, and wish you the full blessings of Providence.

Hon. Ms. Draude: — Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislative Assembly, it is the will and pleasure of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until later today, the 21st day of October 2009 at 2 p.m. This Legislative Assembly is accordingly prorogued.

[His Honour retired from the Chamber at 10:12.]

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Hon. Brad Wall
Premier
President of the Executive Council

Hon. Bob Bjornerud
Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Crop Insurance Corporation

Hon. Bill Boyd
Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation
Minister Responsible for Uranium Development
Partnership
Minister Responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Research Council

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Minister of Enterprise
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated

Hon. June Draude
Minister Responsible for Crown Investments
Corporation
Provincial Secretary
Minister Responsible for Information Technology Office
Minister Responsible for Information
Services Corporation
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Government Insurance
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission

Hon. Dustin Duncan
Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport

Hon. Rod Gantfoer
Minister of Finance
Government House Leader

Hon. Donna Harpauer
Minister of Social Services

Hon. Jeremy Harrison
Minister of Municipal Affairs

Hon. Nancy Heppner
Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation

Hon. Bill Hutchinson
Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations
Minister Responsible for Northern Affairs
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Gaming Corporation

Hon. D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert
Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

Hon. Ken Krawetz
Deputy Premier
Minister of Education

Hon. Don McMorris
Minister of Health

Hon. Don Morgan
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
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Telecommunications

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Minister Responsible for Immigration
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. James Reiter
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company

Hon. Christine Tell
Minister of Government Services
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Liquor and Gaming Authority
Minister Responsible for the Capital Commission