



THIRD SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

of the

**Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan**

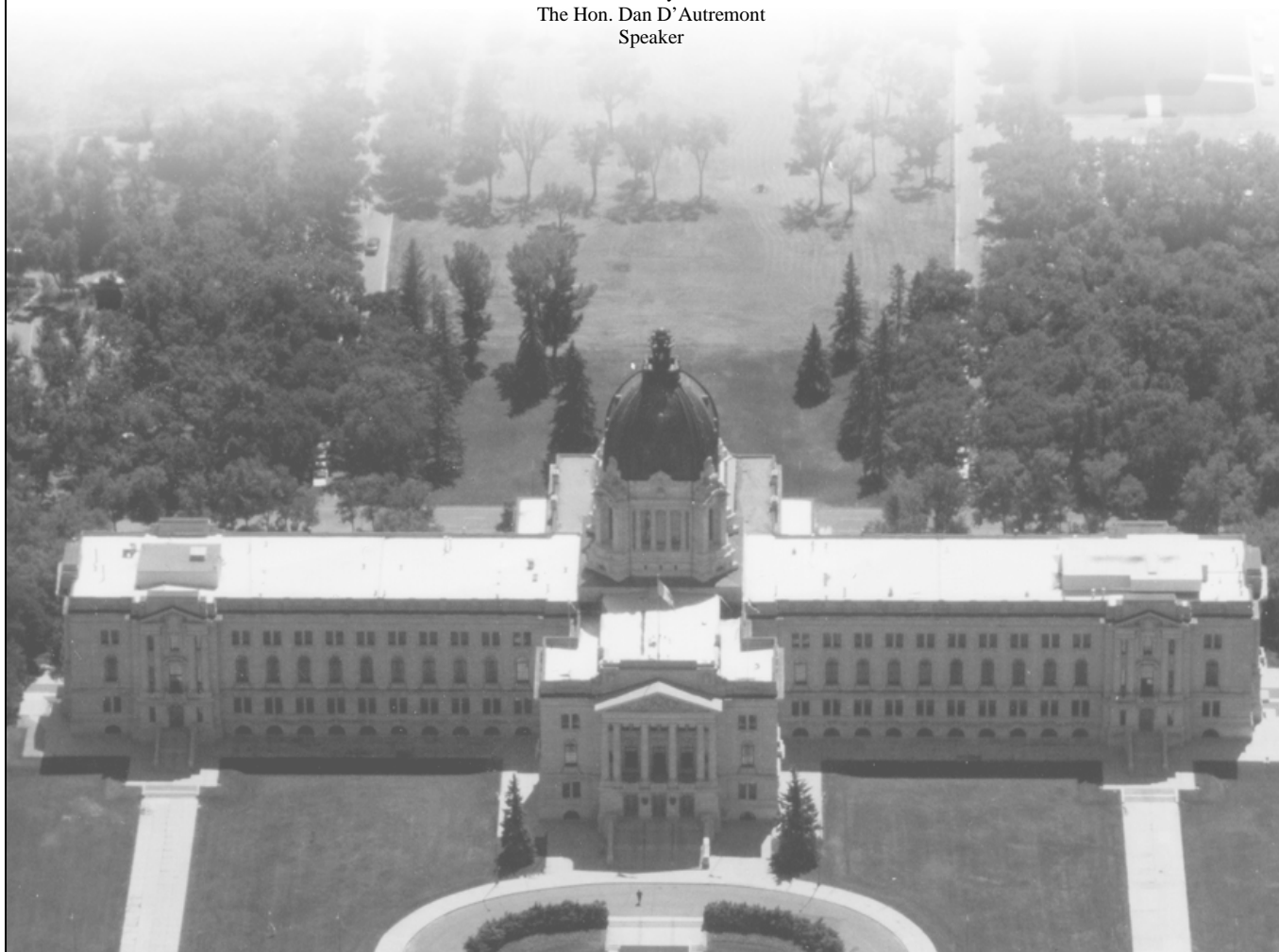
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**DEBATES  
and  
PROCEEDINGS**

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(HANSARD)

Published under the  
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The Hon. Dan D'Autremont  
Speaker



**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN**

Speaker — Hon. Dan D’Autremont  
 Premier — Hon. Brad Wall  
 Leader of the Opposition — Cam Broten

<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
Belanger, Buckley	NDP	Athabasca
Bjornerud, Bob	SP	Melville-Saltcoats
Boyd, Hon. Bill	SP	Kindersley
Bradshaw, Fred	SP	Carrot River Valley
Brkich, Greg	SP	Arm River-Watrous
Broten, Cam	NDP	Saskatoon Massey Place
Campeau, Jennifer	SP	Saskatoon Fairview
Chartier, Danielle	NDP	Saskatoon Riversdale
Cheveldayoff, Hon. Ken	SP	Saskatoon Silver Springs
Cox, Herb	SP	The Battlefords
D’Autremont, Hon. Dan	SP	Cannington
Docherty, Mark	SP	Regina Coronation Park
Doherty, Hon. Kevin	SP	Regina Northeast
Doke, Larry	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
Draude, Hon. June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Hon. Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Hon. Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
Hickie, Darryl	SP	Prince Albert Carlton
Hutchinson, Bill	SP	Regina South
Huyghebaert, D.F. (Yogi)	SP	Wood River
Jurgens, Victoria	SP	Prince Albert Northcote
Kirsch, Delbert	SP	Batoche
Krawetz, Hon. Ken	SP	Canora-Pelly
Lawrence, Greg	SP	Moose Jaw Wakamow
Makowsky, Gene	SP	Regina Dewdney
Marchuk, Russ	SP	Regina Douglas Park
McCall, Warren	NDP	Regina Elphinstone-Centre
McMillan, Hon. Tim	SP	Lloydminster
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Paul	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Hon. Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Greg	SP	Yorkton
Parent, Roger	SP	Saskatoon Meewasin
Phillips, Kevin	SP	Melfort
Reiter, Hon. Jim	SP	Rosetown-Elrose
Ross, Laura	SP	Regina Qu’Appelle Valley
Sproule, Cathy	NDP	Saskatoon Nutana
Steinley, Warren	SP	Regina Walsh Acres
Stewart, Hon. Lyle	SP	Thunder Creek
Tell, Hon. Christine	SP	Regina Wascana Plains
Tochor, Corey	SP	Saskatoon Eastview
Toth, Don	SP	Moosomin
Vermette, Doyle	NDP	Cumberland
Wall, Hon. Brad	SP	Swift Current
Weekes, Hon. Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Hon. Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest

[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to introduce to you and through you to members of the House, someone who needs no introduction, someone who this institution is used to seeing seated there, or even where you are, but now is in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, the former lieutenant governor for the province of Saskatchewan; the former Clerk of this Legislative Assembly; the provincial historian, Saskatchewan's leading historical scholar, I might say, certainly one of them; an individual who has never turned down the opportunity for public service to assist in public policy matters, Mr. Speaker, whether it was the efforts of the government with respect to properly honouring our first premier, Walter Scott, or more recently as announced today by the Minister of Central Services, a new naming policy for the province of Saskatchewan.

Because of the good work of our guest and his recommendations I'd like all members, if they would, to join me in welcoming back to the Legislative Assembly Dr. Gordon Barnhart.

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, I'd like to join with the Premier in welcoming Dr. Barnhart to the legislature. As the Premier points out, no stranger to this Assembly and certainly no stranger to the people of the province. So thank you for the different roles that you have served in already and thank you for your ongoing work in ensuring that Canadian democracy is alive and well and going strong. Thank you. I'd ask all members to join me also again in welcoming Dr. Barnhart.

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

**Mr. Docherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you to the rest of the Assembly, seated in the west gallery is a group of 16 students and two instructors from the Aboriginal police preparation program at SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology]. And I'll be explaining this program a bit further through a member's statement, but joining us today are Allison Beatty — just give us a wave — Tara Bellegarde, Kristina Buhse, Delvin Cappo, Tanner Kehler, Antonia Lerat, Miranda Mebs, Brandon Parisien, Benjamin Pieczonka, Brittany Rempel, James Robertson, Connor Schoenthaler, Shalaine Starblanket, Burton Steele, Tejpal Virk, and Zoe Willis.

Along with them are their two instructors, Marlene Dormuth and James Pratt, both retired after 25 years of outstanding service with the Regina Police Service. They both worked in the

Children's Justice Centre and also as a cultural relations recruitment. And I would ask all members to join me in welcoming them to their legislature.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member from Coronation Park in welcoming these guests from the SIAST police Aboriginal preparation course to their legislature.

I've had the privilege of attending the grad at an occasion in the not too distant past, Mr. Speaker, and it's a rigorous program. It's very interesting to see the change that these individuals go through in the program and to see the opportunities they then go on to postgraduation. So it's good to see the class here today. And it's always good to see Marlene Dormuth and especially Jim Pratt here at their Legislative Assembly, two individuals that have done much for the people of Saskatchewan in so many different capacities these years on. Anyway please join with me in welcoming these individuals to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I have two sets of introductions to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Legislative Assembly.

First, joining us in the west gallery is Dr. Ahmed Farooq and Dr. Patanjali Chaturvedi. Mr. Speaker, these two doctors are interventional radiologists who are based here in Regina and they're doing some pretty innovative work on prostate artery embolization. They're accompanied by Judy Davis, the president and CEO [chief executive officer] of the Hospitals of Regina Foundation. Mr. Speaker, we'll learn more about these two doctors in a member's statement by one of my colleagues in a few moments. So I would ask all members to join with me in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

And, Mr. Speaker, while I'm on my feet, also in the west gallery we're joined by six individuals who I am very pleased to be able to introduce this afternoon. First of all, Dr. Susan Shaw, who's the Chair of the Health Quality Council of Saskatchewan and also the department head of the adult critical care at Saskatoon Health Region; Christina Denysek who is vice-president of human resources at Sunrise Health Region; Heidi Blommaert, the director of operational support at Sunrise Health Region; Ngaire Woodroffe Browne who is a director at Extendicare veterans' program at Wascana Rehab Centre; Heather Thiessen who, Mr. Speaker, has been a patient adviser for several years now and, in 2013 at our annual health care quality summit, was named our first patient ambassador. Thank you, Heather, for being here.

As well, Kim Camboia. Mr. Speaker, Kim Camboia is a mother of a three-year-old with cystic fibrosis, and they've been in and out of hospitals, as you can imagine, a number of times. Mr. Speaker, what started out as being a part of the children's hospital design — in fact Kim used one of her daughter's baby blankets to actually unveil the design for the children's hospital

— that really has ignited a passion in Kim for quality improvement within the health care system.

Kim since then has been involved in four rapid process improvement workshops, six 3P [production preparation process] events, and several patient panels at the Saskatoon Health Region. She now serves as an RPIW [rapid process improvement workshop] mentor to new patient and family advocates who are just now getting involved in lean improvement.

I had the opportunity to have lunch with these six individuals, Mr. Speaker, and am very, very pleased to be able to introduce them to their Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure on behalf of the opposition to join with the Minister of Health in welcoming these guests in the west gallery to their legislature: the two doctors who are doing it sounds like some incredibly innovative work, and we look forward to hearing about that work further in the member's statement, as well as Dr. Susan Shaw with the Health Quality Council and those who have been involved in working on making health care better in this province. With that, I'd like to ask all members to join me in welcoming these guests to their legislature.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Advanced Education.

**Hon. Mr. Norris:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to you and through you, I'd like to add to introductions that have already been offered. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the work of Marlene and Jim, and the entire cohort from the Aboriginal police preparation program.

I had an opportunity to speak briefly with the students this morning, and they highlighted the work of the program as it related to discipline, which was easy to identify as they were standing at attention and really spoke to their commitment to their professionalism. They also spoke about the connection between learning and earning, and then finally they were able to talk about their bright career prospects that they have in Saskatchewan today.

And so from Gull Lake to Meadow Lake and well beyond, I'd like to just offer the opportunity for all of us to join in and thank these students and Marlene and Jim for being here today. Mr. Speaker, I'll ask all members to join me in welcoming these students to their Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I too want to stand and recognize the Aboriginal policing force students and . . .

[The hon. member spoke for a time in Cree.]

And just in my language, Mr. Speaker, Cree language. I've just told them that they have to continue working hard. It really

inspires me, and many other children throughout our communities, to see Aboriginal people take their assertive place in Saskatchewan and to keep working very hard because we're very proud of you. You're the best.

And remember, the last part of my Cree translation, Mr. Speaker, is I told them not to stop me speeding when I'm going home on weekends once they become police officers. But again, very proud of you, keep up the great work and you're a good role model for our kids. And thanks so much for the instructors who are making that extra effort. Merci tcho.

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to recognize and introduce one of our independent officers, Dr. Michael Boda, Saskatchewan's Chief Electoral Officer, who's joined us in your gallery along with a number of other folks who are in town for a conference and training session. These are the folks from right across the province in constituencies, all of our constituencies, who are going to be conducting the next provincial election.

And we thank you so much for your service and for your hard work, and we look forward to I think Dr. Barnhart addressing the group later today. So I want to recognize them and welcome all these folks to their Legislative Assembly.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to join with the Government House Leader in welcoming the Chief Electoral Officer, Dr. Michael Boda, to his Legislative Assembly and all of the guests from the length and breadth of Saskatchewan, these servants of democracy who are here to improve their skills, to get sworn in, to hear a few reflections from Dr. Gordon Barnhart on the practice of democracy in our province, and to see them here today and to realize their commitment to helping us do our job on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan is indeed very inspiring.

So I join with the Government House Leader in welcoming these servants of democracy to their Legislative Assembly.

**The Speaker:** — I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Gordon Barnhart, the former lieutenant governor, former Clerk of the Senate, and former Clerk of the Saskatchewan Assembly back to the Legislative Assembly. I now know what it feels like to be the last speaker to the podium. Somebody has already said everything that you were going to say.

**An Hon. Member:** — Go ahead anyway.

**The Speaker:** — I intend to. I would like to introduce to members of the Assembly, guests from Elections Saskatchewan that we have in our gallery today. Leading this group, we have with us our provincial Chief Electoral Officer, Dr. Michael Boda. With Dr. Boda are the new returning officers and election clerks.

Over the past several months, staff from the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, which is more commonly known as Elections Saskatchewan, have been following a merit-based process in

recruiting, interviewing, and hiring returning officers and election clerks for each of the province's 61 constituencies that will come into effect when the writ of election is next issued. These senior election officials are gathering for the first time as a group and are undergoing an orientation in the world of election management and the specific rules and requirements of Saskatchewan's electoral law.

In just a few hours, my colleagues at the Board of Internal Economy and I will be joining Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan for the official swearing-in of constituency returning officers in a formal appointment ceremony. I would ask all the members of the House to welcome our senior election officials to the Assembly.

### PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to present a petition calling for greater support for education. And we know that education is one of the most vital services that government provides the citizens, and this government has failed to deliver a long-term plan and vision and the necessary resources to prioritize the delivery of educational excellence. And we know that this government has failed to deliver a real plan to close the Aboriginal education gap, support English as an additional language students, support community schools and their communities and students. And we know that we must build the best education system for today and for Saskatchewan's future.

I'd like to read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on this government to immediately prioritize education by laying out a long-term vision and plan with the necessary resources to provide the best quality education for Saskatchewan that reflects Saskatchewan's demographic and population changes, that is based on proven educational best practices, that is developed through consultation with the education sector, and that builds strong educational infrastructure to serve students and communities long into the future.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, I do so present. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise to present petitions on behalf of concerned residents within Regina and in support of safety on Dewdney Avenue and calling on this government to act to move the dangerous heavy-haul truck traffic off of Dewdney Avenue. Certainly residents are upset by the unacceptable delay by that government in acting to ensure safety and to address a problem created by that government. And the prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on the provincial government to immediately take action as it relates to the

unacceptable danger, disturbance, and infrastructure damage caused by heavy-haul truck traffic on Dewdney Avenue, west of the city centre, to ensure the safety and well-being of communities, families, residents, and users; and that those actions and plans should include rerouting the heavy-haul truck traffic, receive provincial funding, and be developed through consultation with the city of Regina communities and residents.

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

These petitions today are signed by concerned residents of Regina. I so submit.

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

**Mr. Vermette:** — Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition. Many northern residents benefited from the rental purchase option program also known as RPO. These families are very proud homeowners in their communities. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this government stubbornly ignored the calls to maintain this program. Instead it cancelled the RPO. That means the dreams of home ownership is destroyed for many families in the North.

The prayer reads:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly calls the Sask Party government to restore the RPO rent-to-own option for responsible renters in northern Saskatchewan, allowing them the dignity of owning their own homes and building communities in our province, the beautiful North.

It is signed by many good people of northern Saskatchewan. I so present.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

**Mr. Belanger:** — Thank you, very much Mr. Speaker. I'm presenting a petition on highways in northern Saskatchewan. This is in relation to Highway 123 to the communities of Cumberland House and to the Cumberland First Nations:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to recognize that upgrades, repairs, and maintenance on Highway 123 is important to northern residents and must be undertaken immediately.

As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

The people that have signed the petition, Mr. Speaker, are all from throughout Saskatchewan, and the ones that have signed this particular petition page are from Air Ronge. And again, Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to present this petition on behalf of the people of Cumberland House and Cumberland House First Nations.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to present a petition in support of replacing the gym at Sacred

Heart Community School. Mr. Speaker, the undersigned petitioners state that the gym at Sacred Heart Community School in north central Regina is now quite literally falling apart, has been closed indefinitely, and is no longer safe for students or staff. The petitioners are well aware that a temporary solution has been provided, relocating students to the old sanctuary of the old Sacred Heart Church, but they call for a permanent solution.

They point out that the school and the community have raised this issue with the Sask Party provincial government since 2007 without resolution. They point out that the gym at Sacred Heart has played an important role in the school's efforts to become a literacy leader, having served as a gathering place for the very successful reading assemblies and reading nights. They point out that Sacred Heart Community School is the largest school in north central Regina with 450-plus students, 75 per cent of whom are First Nations and Métis. They point out that enrolment has increased by 100-plus students over the past four years and that attendance and learning outcomes are steadily improving. And they point out that, as a matter of basic fairness and common sense, Sacred Heart Community School needs a gym.

In the prayer that reads as follows, the petitioners:

Respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the Sask Party provincial government to immediately commit to the replacement of the gymnasium of Sacred Heart Community School.

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed by neighbours of Sacred Heart Community School here in the city of Regina. I so present.

#### STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

#### St. Patrick's Day

**Mr. Steinley:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today is St. Patrick's Day, a great day of celebration for Irish people, their culture, and all things Irish.

Mr. Speaker, St. Patrick's Day is an important annual celebration for the people of Ireland and the Irish patron saint. St. Patrick was a Christian missionary in the 5th century who worked on bringing Christianity to Ireland. He was beaten by thugs, harassed by the Irish royalty, and reprimanded by his British superiors.

After his death, St. Patrick was largely forgotten, but over time, his mythology has grown. It is said he introduced the Irish to the concept of the Holy Trinity by using a three-leafed clover to represent the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Today St. Patrick's Day involves public parades and festivals and the wearing of green attire or shamrocks, and Christians attend church services.

Mr. Speaker, when Saskatchewan was founded, one in ten of

our residents were of Irish origin, so Irish culture is built into the foundations of our great province. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members of this Assembly join me today in recognizing patron saint St. Patrick, and I hope that everyone takes a little time out today to celebrate all things Irish. To all my Irish friends, sláinte. Thank you.

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

**Mr. McCall:** — Mr. Speaker, today is St. Patrick's Day, the annual celebration of Ireland's patron saint. It's a day for much festivity and merriment, a day for everyone, whether we have Irish blood flowing through our veins or not, to honour and celebrate the gifts of the Irish. And those gifts and contributions have been many, Mr. Speaker.

In 1905, as has been stated, when Saskatchewan officially became a province, 10 per cent of our population was Irish. The Irish played a crucial role in building our province in those early days, and they've been a vital force in our province right to this merry day. And what a very merry day it is, Mr. Speaker.

Our very own O'Hanlon's Pub in downtown Regina has been the Guinness capital of Canada for the last few years, serving more pints of Guinness, the black and delicious, on St. Patrick's Day than any other pub in all of Canada.

However Saskatchewan people celebrate St. Patrick's Day, I hope it's a good one, a fun one, and a safe one. And, Mr. Speaker, to you and to all members of this Assembly and to all Saskatchewan people, but especially those of Irish descent, I wish a very happy St. Patrick's Day. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of St. Patrick behold you. Erin go bragh, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### Prostate Artery Embolization Project

**Mr. Marchuk:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm privileged today to talk about the innovative research that Dr. Patanjali Chaturvedi and Dr. Ahmed Farooq are engaged in here in Saskatchewan.

Dr. Chaturvedi and Dr. Farooq are interventional radiologists in Regina who are instrumental in the prostate artery embolization trial for patients suffering from a benign prostate condition called benign prostatic hypertrophy, BPH. More than 50 per cent of men age 50 years and older will have BPH, with the number going up to 90 per cent by 80 years of age. Prostate enlargement can lead to urinary symptoms as well as infections and bladder stone formation. These infections can be life-threatening, especially when left untreated.

Prostate artery embolization is a procedure that reduces enlargement of the prostate gland. It is less invasive and requires fewer health system resources than other procedures currently being used to treat BPH. This is the first research trial of its kind in Saskatchewan and in Canada. The two-year trial is focused on treating 50 patients and recording the data to continue the research and development of PAE [prostate artery embolization].

Mr. Speaker, this project is of critical importance as it will hopefully lead to better health for all men everywhere. I'd like to ask all members to join me in thanking Dr. Chaturvedi and Dr. Farooq for their groundbreaking work right here in Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Safety on Dewdney Avenue

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to come together with community members and community leaders this past week and to push for safety on Dewdney Avenue. We came together for a door-to-door community petition drive to call for action by that provincial government to ensure safety and get the dangerous heavy-haul trucks off of Dewdney Avenue. The response was overwhelming.

When the province established the GTH [Global Transportation Hub] a couple of years ago, they neglected to have a plan in place to ensure the resulting safe flow of traffic. The result has been that Dewdney Avenue, in the middle of a residential neighbourhood with homes, schools, child cares, seniors' homes, parks, and tourism sites, has been inundated with heavy-haul truck traffic at all hours of day and night. This is nothing short of a major safety concern, and it impacts the well-being of families and residents. It's dangerous. It's loud. It shakes homes, and it's damaging property.

The community is calling for immediate actions to get these trucks off of Dewdney. The long-term solution needs to be building the west bypass, but an immediate, interim, short-term solution is required. Rebuilding a short section of Pinkie Road, including a small bridge just west of Regina so that trucks can bypass Dewdney, is a good option.

The GTH is a provincial project, thus it's only appropriate that the province takes responsibility and immediately provides the necessary funding and works with the city of Regina towards an urgent and a long-term solution. This government can no longer ignore this issue. Any further delays are entirely unacceptable and, as community members say, the risks of not acting are simply too large. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Aboriginal Police Preparation Program

**Mr. Docherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to what I said earlier in my introduction, today in the House we have the graduating class and two of the instructors from SIAST Aboriginal police preparation program.

This program was developed by SIAST and the Saskatchewan police Aboriginal recruitment committee to address the gaps in skills that were preventing potential Aboriginal recruits from entering into policing careers. It is a 28-week program that is demanding, both academically and physically, to prepare students for a career in law enforcement or security. Courses include criminal law, criminal justice issues, addictions, suicide intervention, history of policing, and many more.

It also now includes the 40-hour security guard training, and students are able to write the exam and be licensed upon completion of the program. Graduates of this program have gained employment with the RCMP, municipal police and border services, airport and mine security, corrections, casinos, the military, Ranch Ehrlo, and courthouse security.

Mr. Speaker, in February 2014, off-reserve Aboriginal employment was up by 4.2 per cent. That's 13 consecutive months of year-over-year increases. It is programs like the Aboriginal police preparation that contribute to the increased Aboriginal employment in Saskatchewan. Mr. Speaker, these graduates will help keep Saskatchewan a safe place to live, work, and raise our families.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating the 16 members of the graduating class of the Aboriginal police preparation program and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Sutherland.

### Agreement Facilitates Moves Between Provinces

**Mr. Merriman:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last Thursday the New West premiers came to an agreement that will make it easier for people moving between the provinces to license their car and continue their apprenticeships. Starting in April 2015, people who move between the three provinces won't need to get their cars inspected if their vehicles have been inspected or are four years old, nor will they need an inspection if one is done at a designated facility in the last 90 days.

The premiers have also agreed that apprentices in the skills trade will be able to move without having to restart their training. This is a measure that will be better for employers who operate in more than one province and would allow Western provinces to share training resources.

In an effort to lessen the financial burden on students and parents, a memorandum of understanding has been signed on open-source education resources. This MOU [memorandum of understanding] is an example of tangible results for the Saskatchewan people that are achieved through the New West Partnership co-operation. Mr. Speaker, open education resources reduce costs for students, increase access to the latest research, and help faculty to share and create knowledge. Through this agreement, students who are enrolled in some of the most popular post-secondary courses will gain access to free open textbooks.

This MOU is an encouraging first step for Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia in fostering ongoing engagement with students, faculty, post-secondary institutions across the West. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### Solutions for Grain Backlog on Railways

**Mr. Moe:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The current rail backlog

facing Saskatchewan farmers is a very serious issue, one our government recognizes and has been working to address for quite some time. I joined with the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure, and the Minister of Economy in a delegation to work on this issue, and we consulted with industry stakeholders, other governments and, most importantly, Saskatchewan producers to find solutions.

Last Thursday our Minister of Agriculture sent a letter to the federal Minister of Agriculture as well as the Minister of Transport with regards to their commitment to introduce emergency legislation when parliament resumes.

[14:00]

A few of the changes we are requesting that the federal government implement are mechanisms to ensure accountability between shippers and railways, including mandatory service level agreements to ensure grain companies fulfill their contract obligations with producers, and to immediately provide targets for car shipments in excess of 13,000 cars per week with future increases as needed and an increase in penalties from the current \$100,000 under the order in council to a minimum of \$250,000 per day, and that any funds collected directly benefit the producers who bear the costs of the system.

Mr. Speaker, we've heard precious few solutions other than joint running rights from those members opposite. And I would like to call on the member from Nutana as well as the Leader of the Opposition to release what suggestions they have communicated to the federal government or to support this government in its request on behalf of Saskatchewan's producers. Thank you.

### QUESTION PERIOD

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

#### Consultant Fees and Lean Initiatives

**Mr. Broten:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Saskatchewan people are rightly frustrated that this government is spending \$40 million on one contract to a US [United States] consultant, especially when this government rejected \$8.5 million in urgent requests for care facilities for desperately needed staff, repairs, and equipment. But Saskatchewan people are especially baffled when they learn that this \$40 million contract includes putting our health care workers through Japanese cultural training. My very specific question to the Premier: what exactly happens in these Japanese cultural training sessions for health care workers?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, the government is investing \$40 million over four years in lean for health care, and it'll be brought then again across government. So that's \$10 million a year, Mr. Speaker. It's about point two per cent of the health budget that we're investing.

Mr. Speaker, how's it working so far? Well we've invested \$26 million so far. We've already saved \$40 million, Mr. Speaker.

That's just on the operational side, Mr. Speaker. We've already saved 20 to \$30 million in the design of the children's hospital on top of that, 2 to \$4 million in annual operating costs at the Moose Jaw hospital when it's opened as a result of lean. Mr. Speaker, we're going to continue with that program because we have already achieved efficiencies greater than the cost — the 10 million per year.

Mr. Speaker, on Thursday last, the Leader of the Opposition likened those in the health care system who are supportive of lean to being members of a cult. Mr. Speaker, these are clear-thinking, principled health care professionals — administrators, yes, but also patients, doctors, and nurses that deserve better from members of this House. Will he apologize to those members of the public service and the health care delivery service system for likening them to cult members?

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Mr. Speaker, there are good aspects to lean, but this government has allowed the lean process to become fat. This government, Mr. Speaker, has forced common sense underground.

Over the weekend, Mr. Speaker, my inbox filled up from health care workers who are afraid to speak out, Mr. Speaker, who are afraid to voice their opinions because of the culture that is being created. This government, Mr. Speaker, is spending \$40 million on just one consultant, and that doesn't even include the other costs that health regions are picking up for additional lean contracts and other lean costs in other ministries.

And we know, Mr. Speaker, that this government is flying in senseis from Japan and paying them \$3,500 a day to give training to Saskatchewan health care workers. So I think when you're spending \$3,500 a day on one sensei from Japan, and there are more senseis, that Saskatchewan people deserve better answers. So my specific question to the Premier was this: what exactly happens in the Japanese cultural training sessions for health care workers?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, what is happening in those sessions is garnering the support of patients who are involved in the process, and health care professionals. Mr. Speaker, it's garnering the support of the president of SUN [Saskatchewan Union of Nurses] who says, "A focus on patient- and family-centred care using best practice evidence and Lean principles will improve the patient experience and return nursing to a rewarding career." I don't think she's a member of a cult, Mr. Speaker.

It is reflected what is happening in these sessions and what a patient team member said when Louise Frederick said, "This experience . . . is very empowering. I am confident patients are being listened to. This is a game changer for patients." Mr. Speaker, I wonder if she's a member of a cult.

Mr. Speaker, I will read, as the member continues to ask questions, quotes from oncologists who will basically describe their experience, and that goes directly to the member's question — oncologists, nurses, health care professionals,



health care administrators who are saying, this is good work on behalf of patients. We're finding efficiencies, Mr. Speaker.

Again I say to the Leader of the Opposition, we can have a debate about our lean project. That's absolutely meet and right that we would. But, Mr. Speaker, we ought to do it without him castigating or characterizing those involved in the process as cult members. Will he simply stand up and say sorry to those health care professionals?

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

**Mr. Broten:** — This is the problem we're seeing from this Premier, Mr. Speaker. The tone being set from the top is that if anyone questions the fact that John Black and Associates has been given a licence to print money, somehow, Mr. Speaker, that they're the problem.

Well, Mr. Speaker, the problem is a government that has allowed lean to become fat. The problem is a government that has replaced common sense with forced learning lessons, Mr. Speaker, that people are forced to follow.

Here's a tweet that came on March 7th from a senior health region official. It says, "Sensei Iwata reminded @SaskatoonHealth today of the importance of teamwork, communication with the gemba and focus on internal customers." Now I don't know about the gemba and the internal customer stuff, Mr. Speaker, but I know that recognizing the importance of teamwork and communication isn't rocket science. It's common sense.

My question for the Premier, Mr. Speaker: why are we paying Japanese senseis to fly to Saskatchewan, pay them \$3,500 a day, \$2,000 for flights, when they're talking about communication, Mr. Speaker, and teamwork?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, maybe the same reason that the Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle paid John Black and Associates for that very thing. Maybe the same reason that Seattle Children's Hospital did the same thing, or Park Nicollet, Minneapolis, or health care institutions from around the world, Mr. Speaker.

If these savings, these efficiencies, these improvements were so self-evident, why didn't members opposite get to it for 16 years of government? Their definition of lean was closing 52 hospitals, slashing nurse training seats, and ensuring that we don't have the proper complement of doctors.

On our side, Mr. Speaker, it's quite the opposite: more doctors practising, more nurses with a growing population, not a declining population. That's the difference. And lean has already paid for itself, Mr. Speaker. It's not only paid for itself financially. We're finding improvements in service. And that's why people like Dr. Gary Groot who's a general surgical oncologist said, "I got into this because there's only once or twice in a lifetime where you get a chance to make a big change, something that's really transformative and fundamentally different." Will he apologize to this oncologist for characterizing him as a cult member, Mr. Speaker?

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Mr. Speaker, I've been getting steady messages from front-line health workers who are afraid to speak out, who are afraid to speak out, specifically because of the tone that the Premier is setting on this issue. I've been hearing from front-line health workers. I say, Mr. Speaker, let's work with those front-line health care workers to make our system better. Let's not turn lean into a cash cow for US consultants, which has happened under this government.

Mr. Speaker, while many of the health care professionals I speak to identify the good aspects of lean, they point out, Mr. Speaker, that much of this is common sense that they already knew and that they've long identified as ways to improve the system. So if the good aspects of lean, Mr. Speaker, about management intentionally listening to those on the front lines and making the necessary changes, the question that Saskatchewan people have, Mr. Speaker, and the question that I have to the Premier is: why are we spending \$40 million on a cash cow contract to a US consultant? Why are we paying Japanese senseis \$3,500 a day to come give Japanese cultural training to health care workers? Why aren't we listening to front-line workers and using common sense as a guide?

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

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, if this was all achievable just through NDP [New Democratic Party] common sense, why in 2005 did the current member for Lakeview and the then Health minister approve a budget, a pilot project for lean, Mr. Speaker, in the Five Hills . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well in the Five Hills Health Region. What was the total amount of that budget? Point two per cent, the exact same amount this government is investing in lean today.

Well the Hon. Leader of the Opposition stood up and said, anybody can figure this out. Why can't we just figure it out as a . . . Why was the NDP opposite, when in government, going to do, pursue the same thing? And I'm looking now at the member for Lakeview. Maybe he wants to stand up and say why they needed lean consultants in 2005 but it's wrong to need them today in 2014.

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

**Mr. Broten:** — Mr. Speaker, I have said all along, there are good aspects to lean. The problem is, and this is what I hear from every health care worker, virtually every health care worker I speak to, Mr. Speaker, is that this government has gone overboard, Mr. Speaker. They have allowed it to turn into a cash cow for consultants as opposed to making a responsible investment, Mr. Speaker, and working with front-line health care providers.

Front-line health care providers, Mr. Speaker, are telling me that they are finding that lean is actually complicating their work. They're frustrated. They're frustrated by the Japanese words that they're forced to learn, the days out for training where they're in workshops, Mr. Speaker, where they learn and they practise building paper airplanes together, Mr. Speaker. And they're frustrated with the paperwork that they now need to fill out. What's especially concerning to these front-line

health care workers is that they are afraid to speak out. They're afraid to speak out because of the overblown adulation that we have seen from this government. It's completely unacceptable that this government would spend \$40 million to create a culture in our health care system where front-line providers are afraid to speak out.

My question to the Premier: will he end the big contracts today and direct those dollars to the front lines where Saskatchewan people need them?

**The Speaker:** — I would ask members to confine their commentary to the floor of the Assembly and not enter into debate with people in the galleries. I recognize the Premier.

**Hon. Mr. Wall:** — Mr. Speaker, Dr. David Kopriva is a vascular surgeon and he said this about this current lean project — by the way, the one that has been undertaken by these consultants, the one, Mr. Speaker, that has already been paid for by the savings found and we're only two years into it. Here's what he said: "The greatest achievement, I think, is to shake up the surgical system from complacency. It's to put this out there that we have to improve what we're doing." He was talking specifically about lean, Mr. Speaker.

That's the kind of health care professional the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has referred to as being . . . likened him to being a cult member, Mr. Speaker. We do need to have a debate. We certainly can have that. Obviously they've taken their position. We've taken ours. But what the Leader of the Opposition really needs to do is stand up and apologize to health care workers who believe in what they're doing.

Mr. Speaker, they're providing reductions in terms of time between diagnosis and care. They're providing more efficient systems of just ways to manage our blood, Mr. Speaker. They're doing it through lean techniques. They're doing it through what they're learning through lean, Mr. Speaker. And a great, great majority of them, I believe, are excited about the potential of lean not just to save money; to provide better care.

Will he now apologize to those people on the front lines who believe in what they are doing, Mr. Speaker, the ones he characterized as members of a cult?

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

### Conditions in Personal Care Homes

**Ms. Chartier:** — Mr. Speaker, we asked the Premier, the Health minister, and the Rural Health minister last week, how many private care homes are currently violating the personal care home regulations and jeopardizing the quality of care for seniors. Despite repeated questions, the Premier, the Health minister, and the Rural Health minister were unable to answer that very specific, very important question. So again to the minister: does he have an answer yet? How many private care homes are violating the regulations and jeopardizing the quality of care for seniors?

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to be really careful to answer that question so that I don't perhaps agree with the member opposite's premise to say that personal care home operators are putting our residents, their customers, their clients, in jeopardy, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we know that there are different levels of deficiencies in terms of what is pointed out by the consultations, Mr. Speaker. That changes from a day-to-day basis, or week-to-week, depending on when inspection, when the facility inspection is up in terms of the inspection cycle, Mr. Speaker.

In terms of deficiencies to the point where it causes concern, where we contemplate pulling a licence, every year we average one to two facilities that we do close, pull the licence, Mr. Speaker. And the number would be the same in 2014, that we are working with that same number.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Riversdale.

**Ms. Chartier:** — Mr. Speaker, there are only about 240 private care homes in our province. This should not be a difficult question to answer. If the government is properly inspecting these care homes, identifying problems, and then following up on those problems, the minister should easily be able to report how many care homes are currently, currently breaching the regulations and jeopardizing the quality of care for seniors.

So either the government doesn't know the answer, or it doesn't want the public to know the answer. Either way, that is unacceptable. So again, to the Health minister: how many private care homes are currently flagged for follow-up because they are jeopardizing the quality of care for seniors?

[14:15]

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

**Hon. Mr. Duncan:** — Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll perhaps repeat what I just answered earlier, Mr. Speaker. In terms of the inspection cycle, which takes place throughout the year for the 242 personal care homes, Mr. Speaker, deficiencies when they're identified . . . Sometimes they can be taken care of right then, during the inspection, Mr. Speaker, wouldn't register as a deficiency when the report is then issued to the Ministry of Health, Mr. Speaker. Others are given a certain amount of time to finish up those deficiencies. So again, in the follow-up work that we do as a ministry, those will clear up, Mr. Speaker, depending on how much time we've given as a ministry.

Mr. Speaker, all of that will be published, Mr. Speaker. We will be providing that to the public in the next couple of weeks, once the regulations are passed. Mr. Speaker, I would question whether or not the members opposite still believe that we could publish that information without passing legislation, regulations, like they seemed to insist just a week ago.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Nutana.

### Lease Payments for Crown Lands

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, because of the grain transportation crisis and the subsequent cash flow crisis producers are facing, the Minister of Agriculture has asked financial institutions to give producers a break and be flexible with their payments. And that's a good thing, Mr. Speaker.

The minister also said that the government would be flexible with those cash-strapped farmers who are falling behind on lease payments for Crown land. But the minister said, quote, last week . . . Last week he said, "The leases are due December 31st each year, and every outstanding account has been contacted by telephone and we're trying to give them as much time as they can to get current."

But many producers are facing a situation where they may not be able to sell their grain for several months. To the minister: does he still stand by that statement?

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

**Hon. Mr. Stewart:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year's record crop is, as everyone knows by now, testing the limits of the grain transportation system. And with not being able to move grain, farmers are facing some cash flow issues.

A letter has been sent to financial institutions in Saskatchewan to encourage them to work with producers regarding cash flow requirements and to be flexible with loan repayments. And, Mr. Speaker, land branch is doing the very same thing. These rents are all due at the end of the year, Mr. Speaker, and we're being patient with those who are in arrears and will continue to do so.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Nutana.

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, Darcy Livingston is a producer who farms about an hour east of Regina. His bins are full of grain, and because of that he couldn't afford to pay this year's government lease fee.

Darcy wanted to work with the government to pay what he could and he offered partial payment, but in late January he received a letter from the Ministry of Agriculture saying that his land lease was about to be cancelled if he didn't pay up in full. That letter referred to sections in *The Provincial Lands Act* which actually give the minister discretion on whether or not to cancel a lease. But when Darcy spoke with the government, he says they wouldn't budge, and they demanded he pay up in full or lose his lease.

Mr. Speaker, why did the minister tell the media he's being flexible with lessees and farmers when he was actually shaking them down and threatening to take away their lease land?

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

**Hon. Mr. Stewart:** — Every year, Mr. Speaker, the leases come due at the end of the year, and every year 90-some per cent of producers pay them. And every year during the 16 years that the NDP were in power, there were a few who didn't. And in fact, Mr. Speaker, during the last full five years of NDP

government, the government cancelled 332 leases. In the first five years of our government, Mr. Speaker, we cancelled far less than half that many. Mr. Speaker, we'll take no lessons from them.

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the member for Saskatoon Nutana.

**Ms. Sproule:** — Mr. Speaker, Darcy Livingston borrowed the money from his brother to pay this government for those lease fees. He didn't want to lose access to the land he's been farming on for years. But it shouldn't have to come to this, Mr. Speaker. Darcy is not alone. This grain transportation crisis has caused major financial problems for producers across our province. Their bins are full but they cannot sell their grain to pay their bills.

Mr. Speaker, the government shouldn't just be giving lip service here saying they are flexible. They should actually be flexible with those producers when it comes to paying for their leases. To that minister: how many other producers in crisis have had their leases threatened by this government?

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

**Hon. Mr. Stewart:** — Mr. Speaker, whether producers lease land from private individuals or whether they lease it from the government, one thing that has to be paid every single year is the lease, or you don't have the land. Mr. Speaker, it's no different with government than it is private. It's never been any different. It was certainly no different under those members, Mr. Speaker, when they were government. In fact as I said, they cancelled more than twice as many leases as we have in the same time period. And, Mr. Speaker, we have no legislative authority in lands branch to grant credit. But the credit-granting agencies have been approached by myself and have expressed an interest in being flexible.

So you know, there's nothing different this year as far as land lease cancellations go than there ever was in the 16 years that those members were in power, except we're not doing half as many.

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

### Reporting of Provincial Finances

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, despite being the first government in Saskatchewan to fail an audit, and in fact the first government in Canada's history to fail an audit, that Finance minister, that Premier, and that government still aren't listening to the independent auditor.

A failed audit is a big deal, Mr. Speaker. It would be enough for a publicly traded company to be delisted from a stock exchange. It would have legal implications for any private company, in this province or otherwise. So the Premier and the Finance minister should be ashamed of the current failure of that audit, and they should be determined to never fail an audit again.

To the Finance minister: will he guarantee here today that Wednesday's budget will follow Canada's generally accepted accounting principles and will pass the auditor's scrutiny?

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

**Hon. Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I've said in this Assembly many times to the member opposite is the system that has been followed by this government since 2007 with the publishing of a summary budget and the publishing of a General Revenue Fund, which we refer to as our operating or chequebook side, Mr. Speaker . . . Mr. Speaker, it's interesting. The member opposite from Athabasca continues to chirp, continues to yell in his place, when he understands that the system that his colleague, the former Finance minister, Jim Melenchuk, put in place . . . And he should remember that, for goodness' sakes. He was part of that, Mr. Speaker.

The system that was put in place in 2004-05 was the system that is what we have followed. It includes the summary budget and includes the General Revenue Fund budget, Mr. Speaker. There's nothing different but I know that member wouldn't understand.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, that Finance minister just doesn't seem to have clued in that he's the first government in this province's history and in Canada's history to fail an audit, Mr. Speaker. And you know, if that Finance minister would actually read the auditor's report, they'd see that it's due to a new accounting scheme created by his government, Mr. Speaker.

First, this government is inappropriately accounting pension costs. Second, it pretends that transfers coming from bank accounts are new revenues. Third, it didn't record the debt it has forced on to universities, health regions, and school boards, for which they've agreed to pay both the principal and the interest. And fourth, it did not properly record assets constructed under its newly contrived shared ownership scheme. Mr. Speaker, will the Finance minister at least admit here today that these are the four reasons that they failed the audit and that they're as a result of a new scheme created by his government?

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

**Hon. Mr. Krawetz:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I can tell the people of Saskatchewan is that the summary financials which we produce, similar to what the NDP produced prior to 2007, have received, Mr. Speaker . . . The summaries, the summary statements, which includes all of government — it includes the ministries, the agencies, the Crown corporations, the not-for-profit, insurance organizations; it includes the regional colleges, the regional health authorities, the school boards, Mr. Speaker, the Crowns; it includes everything, Mr. Speaker — and since the government introduced it in 2004-2005, there has been an unqualified audit, Mr. Speaker, unqualified, and we continued to have received that unqualified opinion on the summaries.

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Mr. Speaker, what part of being the first government in Canada's history to fail an audit does that government, that Finance minister, and that Premier simply not appreciate?

If that Premier and that Finance minister would only turn to pages 11 through 15 of the auditor's report, they would see their new scheme being detailed as to why they failed an audit. The minister can wax on about summaries, but the fact is when that Premier runs billboards, issues news releases and advertisements across this province, they're based off the GRF [General Revenue Fund] books that they failed an audit on, Mr. Speaker, because of the pension costs that are recorded incorrectly, because of pretending revenues are revenues when they're not, Mr. Speaker, and of course because of hiding debt on health regions, universities, and school boards across this province as well as its new shared ownership scheme, detailed very clearly on page 12 for that minister.

Again to the Finance minister: will his government listen to the auditor and ensure it doesn't repeat the practices in Wednesday's budget? Very clearly, yes or no?

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

**Hon. Mr. Krawetz:** — Mr. Speaker, an interesting, a very interesting choice of words from the member opposite who is suggesting that the summaries, as verified by the auditor, are somehow incomplete. He's suggesting that the debts and everything else that was in summaries are somehow inaccurate, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, that's exactly what he said. "There is not a full reporting and it's hid" — that's the quote that he said, Mr. Speaker.

So I'd ask him to be very careful, Mr. Speaker, because the summaries contain all of the information. They are unqualified, Mr. Speaker. And you know what, Mr. Speaker? This province has a unique position. It's got a balanced budget. It's got a growing economy. It's got a growing population. It's got a growing number of students enrolled in our schools, Mr. Speaker, something that that former NDP government wouldn't have known a thing about.

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

**The Speaker:** — I recognize the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

### Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund

**Hon. Mr. Wyant:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's the responsibility of this government to continue to address crime in our province so that Saskatchewan continues to be a safe place for citizens to live, work, and raise a family.

Four years ago our government developed legislation, *The Seizure of Criminal Property Act*, to help take the profit out of crime through the seizure of property found to be linked to unlawful activity. The Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund was formed pursuant to the Act to assist in the fight against crime. The proceeds accumulated from unlawful activity are now able to be used to help address crime because of that legislation. The efforts in law enforcement and the Ministry of Justice assist in keeping communities safe and also provide additional resources for police operations and victims services in our province.

Today we announced an important step in helping the suppression of crime and helping victims of crime in

communities across Saskatchewan by investing money through the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund. Since the fund was established in 2009, it has grown to \$1.31 million, and we are now investing a portion of those funds into organizations that are most in need of support, such as Regina's Police Service and the Ministry of Justice victims services branch.

Today we provided the first payout of \$200,000 from the fund. The fund, operated by the Ministry of Justice, has provided the Regina Police Service with \$100,000 and the Victims' Fund with \$100,000. The funding in the Victims' Fund will be used to support ongoing services for victims of crime in Saskatchewan. We're pleased to distribute funding to police services and support ongoing services for victims of crime in Saskatchewan. This fund will continue to be important as we work together to reduce crime and victimization in our province.

Mr. Speaker, this fund is important as we work together to reduce crime and victimization in our province. By investing money back into our communities, we demonstrate another example of our strong commitment to communities and families in Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[14:30]

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to congratulate the Ministry of Justice on their use of this money that they have put together from the proceeds of crime legislation which we have in the province. And I know that the money will be well used by the Regina Police Service and by victims services, Mr. Speaker. It's important that we make sure that these kinds of dollars are used appropriately.

I'm also quite pleased to know that my questions that I asked of the minister last Monday night triggered some of this release of money because I had suggested that the Minister of Finance was looking for money for his budget, and there was about \$1.3 million sitting in this fund which hadn't been spent for four years. And so all of a sudden today we see that \$200,000 of that money is being spent. And I think that's the role of the opposition, is to make sure money that's collected for a specific purpose is used for that purpose. And I thank the minister for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

#### Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement

**Hon. Mr. McMillan:** — Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure today to bring up the debate on the Canada-Korea free trade deal. Mr. Speaker, this is something that we think is fundamental to the growth, Mr. Speaker, and prosperity of our province as well as our country. And we think it's very important to put this debate forward to the House, Mr. Speaker, that the members opposite will most certainly want to have their opinion put on the record, to have their say, Mr. Speaker, on something that is fundamental to Saskatchewan and to the competitive advantages that we have here in our province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when we look at trade, Saskatchewan is particularly leveraged in this regard. We are the province with the largest trade per capita, Mr. Speaker, in Canada, and this sort of initiative from our federal government is something we support very much.

When we put out our plan for growth, Mr. Speaker, we targeted specifically Asia and the growing markets in Asia, Mr. Speaker, where we think that Canada and specifically Saskatchewan's exports should be targeted. And, Mr. Speaker, this agreement comes on the heels of the EU [European Union] trade agreement in 2013. But before that, Mr. Speaker, we had over 20 years where the trade file lay fallow. Today, Mr. Speaker, we have seen the EU trade deal which has moved the ball forward in a very meaningful way for Canada and Saskatchewan.

The Korean trade deal, Mr. Speaker, announced last week, again specifically important for Saskatchewan. And we are going to continue to advocate and speak publicly about the importance we think that the trade deals will have on our province, specifically the Trans-Pacific Partnership which is what we hope is next, opening up new markets, better markets for our producers.

Mr. Speaker, the members opposite, I'm certain, would have looked through the very, very detailed summary, 74 pages of this agreement that came out last Monday. I'm certain that they would have found more fulsome information, Mr. Speaker, on the Internet and through their colleagues, Mr. Speaker, in the trade department federally, and that they will certainly have some fairly specific comments in this regard.

But, Mr. Speaker, I want to lay the context a little bit about this trade deal and why I think it is so important and fundamentally positive for our province. We are a province that is a province of producers. We are not a province of mass consumption, so we have to produce and export. In 2007, Mr. Speaker, our province produced a large, almost \$20 billion worth of products which we exported around the world. In the six short years following that, Mr. Speaker, we have increased it to over 32 billion, almost \$33 billion. That's a 70.2 per cent increase in productive capacity and export capacity that we now have and we now send around the world.

Mr. Speaker, we have an organization that's been engaged in Saskatchewan for quite some period of time, but an aggressive group, Mr. Speaker, called STEP, the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership: this past year, 42 trade missions to 27 countries. And, Mr. Speaker, this is an aggressive group. It's led by Lionel LaBelle. He's the CEO over at STEP. He has relationships around the world. He's got a very aggressive team that speaks the languages and knows the cultures, that leads trade missions, leads industry from Saskatchewan to access these markets. And they do it very successfully, Mr. Speaker. That is part of the Saskatchewan advantage.

Mr. Speaker, these are our federal agreements, but to lay a little context, our government has been one that from the time we came forward after the 2007 election, we have been strong advocates for trade across the board. We initiated the New West Partnership. We were a signatory to that, Mr. Speaker. We have actively pursued trade agreements and improvements to trade

agreements within Canada. Saskatchewan has championed the dispute resolution process, business to government, under the AIT [Agreement on Internal Trade]. It has now been ratified in nine out of 10 provinces. We wait on New Brunswick, Mr. Speaker, but that was a Canadian initiative.

We have, Mr. Speaker, in late December, Saskatchewan put forward a trade dispute with the province of Quebec in regards to non-dairy creamers. We have said publicly, we have acted publicly that where there is a violation of trade agreements, we will aggressively pursue these in regards to the producers in our province, Mr. Speaker. And that is a commitment we make and will continue to make. Because we know with the arable land advantages we have in our province, the fertile soil we have in our province, the industrious culture, the industrious people, Mr. Speaker, that comprise the population of this province, we have competitive advantages that are uncomparated across Canada and around the world, Mr. Speaker. And given the access, given the chance, we know that Saskatchewan people will outcompete almost anyone, Mr. Speaker.

In regards to Korea, Mr. Speaker, this is a great market for us. This is the first free trade deal that Canada has ever inked with an Asian nation. Mr. Speaker, we hope the first of many. Korea, a \$1.1 trillion economy, 50 million people. Mr. Speaker, this free trade agreement gives our producers access, and preferential access, even more preferential than the US and the EU who have signed free trade agreements as late as 2011.

Currently, Mr. Speaker, ag exports to South Korea face high tariffs. An average of 53.7 per cent tariffs were faced in 2012. Once this is fully implemented, this trade agreement, Mr. Speaker, 98.2 per cent of these tariffs will be abolished.

Saskatchewan's exports to Korea: \$150 million in agriculture and agri-food products, 54 million in industrial goods, and 6.9 million in forestry products. But, Mr. Speaker, this has come back a long way from our high of just a few years ago. We, Mr. Speaker, in 2011, before 2011 we were exporting about \$300 million worth of products. Today, Mr. Speaker, it's well under 100 million. And that is because, as I mentioned earlier, EU and the US had signed free trade agreements in 2011 which gave them preference over Canadian goods, Mr. Speaker.

So what we have seen in that short period of time is agri-food products have dropped over 80 per cent. We have seen wheat specifically drop over 80 per cent, and we have seen canola oil exports drop over 85 per cent. Mr. Speaker, this is something that in all those products we think we can compete with anyone in the world, given a level playing field. And this trade agreement is going to give us that level playing field that we desire.

A few more highlights, Mr. Speaker, is when this comes into force, we'll see immediate access for wheat, rye, oats, canary seed, and unroasted malt going to zero duty. Unroasted malt had a 269 per cent duty, Mr. Speaker. When we look at oats, it currently has a duty of 554 per cent. Mr. Speaker, almost impossible for our producers to compete with producers from other places in the world that have this sort of immediate and duty-free access. We will see, Mr. Speaker, over a period of time, beef, pork, pulse crops, Mr. Speaker, that will see phase-outs of those duties, again very important access for our

producers.

I think, Mr. Speaker, something that we don't often think about is duties on potash. Korea had a provision to put a 6.5 per cent duty on potash. And that, Mr. Speaker, would be, with this agreement, will go to immediate zero duty. Welding machinery, Mr. Speaker, again we will see immediate access.

Something embedded in this, Mr. Speaker . . . I saw a little bit of press on it. I think it's just interesting; we talk about our culture going around the world. Rye whisky had a duty on it, Mr. Speaker. Under this trade agreement, people in Korea can access and enjoy good Canadian rye whisky, and that's a little bit of Canada that I think is important.

Mr. Speaker, I think my colleagues listen to me politely, but think I'm a little theoretical when I quote people like Adam Smith. But I'm going to do it again here today, and I request the indulgence of the members opposite as well.

Adam Smith, Mr. Speaker, the prolific writer, wrote *Wealth of Nations*, advocating for a lot of things but largely free trade and how free trade benefits both parties involved. And Adam Smith spoke about agriculture and the wine industry. This is his comments in *Wealth of Nations*: by means of glasses, hot houses, and hot walls, very good grapes can be raised in Scotland, and very good wine too can be made from them but about 50 times the expense of which for at least as good of quality can be bought from foreign countries of it.

Mr. Speaker, he's saying that in northern Scotland, they can produce wine with a lot of technology and a lot of cost. But he goes on to say, why would you when Scotland has competitive advantages in other things such as sheep or Scotch, Mr. Speaker? He was advocating that maybe the Scottish countryside would be better utilized making Scotch, and they could trade it straight across for French burgundy. And, Mr. Speaker, that theme is something that I think is reflected in this trade agreement.

But I did want to make the point that for a good trade agreement, Mr. Speaker, you need two sides. One country cannot dictate free trade on another. It is an agreement between countries. And part of being a government that believes in free trade is being a government that will defend free trade, Mr. Speaker, it will aggressively defend free trade, that will negotiate a good deal for both parties. And, Mr. Speaker, that is cornerstone of any trade agreement that we would put forward and the scrutiny that we would put to any trade agreement that our federal government would put forward on our behalf.

Looking through this agreement, Mr. Speaker, we feel it is a very positive one and one that allows us room to grow. I will look forward to the comments from the members opposite, Mr. Speaker. They historically have been on multiple sides of the free trade fence.

Mr. Speaker, I'm getting a couple of members opposite that are arguing with this fact. I will read for them then, Mr. Speaker, if they like. Mr. Romanow, former premier of the province, former New Democratic premier, he said, and this was in regards to the free trade agreement with the United States, and I'm going to quote, "That's why I say it's a sellout of Canada

and Saskatchewan heritage pure and simple.” Mr. Speaker, Romanow thought that trade would sell out the culture of Canada, and, Mr. Speaker, today we’re talking about a free trade deal with Korea.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell members opposite, members on this side, that I don’t believe we’re going to lose our culture and our heritage with this trade deal. However, I will admit to the members opposite that over the last several years, as I go to my daughters’ school dances, that Gangnam Style, a pure Korean export, has truly been catching on. I do not know of a trade deal, however, Mr. Speaker, that would either support or inhibit this cultural phenomenon.

But, Mr. Speaker, this view that sellout of our province of trade deals, Mr. Speaker, the member for Lakeview, Mr. Speaker, the current member of Lakeview in regards to the New West Partnership called it a sellout trade deal. Well, Mr. Speaker, working with Alberta and British Columbia, the New West Partnership, Mr. Speaker, these are the provinces which are leading Canada. We’re part of that group, Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the people of Saskatchewan, and I would challenge the members opposite to support that trade deal. I’d challenge them to support this trade deal.

[14:45]

Mr. Speaker, I’m going to wrap my comments up here fairly shortly, but as we work our way through this discussion, Mr. Speaker, as the members opposite have an opportunity to get on their feet to discuss this trade deal, trade deals in general, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the member for Athabasca, the member that was calling across the floor moments ago, will recognize that in this trade deal, forestry products, forestry products, Mr. Speaker, are going to have open access to Korea, to an Asian market. And that member, Mr. Speaker, from Athabasca knows how important that is to his community and how much his communities, how much his communities contribute to this province. This trade deal will bolster their efforts to grow their businesses, to grow their communities, and I think that he should stand on this floor and support it.

Mr. Speaker, when the member, the critic for Agriculture, gets on her feet, I hope that she supports this trade deal, the open and free access for pulse, for wheat, for barley, for hogs, Mr. Speaker, for cattle. I hope that the member, the critic for Agriculture, stands on her feet and supports this, and when she’s meeting with the Friends of the Wheat Board next, that they support her in regards to free and open access for their wheat.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition takes an opportunity to get on his feet and to support this trade deal, that, Mr. Speaker, when he is deciding whether he’s representing the people of Saskatchewan, the agricultural producers that this is a good deal for, that he stands in this House and says so. And when it’s time to vote in this House, that he is here and says aye, Mr. Speaker, in support of this motion.

Mr. Speaker, we are a province of traders. We are a productive, fertile province with a lot to offer the world. Trade deals like this open those doors, and we are going to support it. And with that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make my motion:

That this Assembly support the Canada-Korea free trade agreement reached by the federal government on March 10, 2014; and:

That this Assembly asserts that the Canada-Korea free trade agreement will benefit Saskatchewan’s producers and economy as the agreement includes: (1) an elimination of duties on wheat, flax, canola seed and meal, mustard, rye, and oats; (2) the phase-out of duties against our canola oil, beef, and pork; (3) the phase-out of duties on our chickpeas and lentils over a three- to five-year period; (4) the elimination of duties on our forestry and value-added wood products; and (5) the elimination of duties on Saskatchewan potash.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to move this motion and put it before the House.

**The Speaker:** — It has been moved by the Minister of Energy and Resources:

That this Assembly support the Canada-Korea free trade agreement reached by the federal government on March 10, 2014; and:

That this Assembly asserts that the Canada-Korea free trade agreement will benefit Saskatchewan’s producers and economy as the agreement includes: (1) the elimination of duties on our wheat, flax, canola seed and meal, mustard, rye, and oats; (2) the phase-out of duties against our canola oil, beef, and pork; (3) the phase-out of duties on our chickpeas and lentils over a three- to five-year period; (4) the elimination of duties on our forestry and value-added wood products; and (5) the elimination of duties on Saskatchewan potash.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We welcome the news about the trade agreement with South Korea. Certainly we know the drivers of Saskatchewan’s economy all across this province will benefit from this agreement. Certainly Saskatchewan produces world-class products and including some of the best crops and agricultural products in the world. So it’s a good thing when we open up new markets for what Saskatchewan has to sell to the world.

New Democrats support expanding and diversifying our trade relationships. New Democrats believe in trade with democratic countries with high standards like South Korea tend to make. We know they tend to make good trading partners with a benefit for the province.

South Korea itself is a very large economy. It has high standards within its economy, and so a well-negotiated trade agreement would certainly be welcome and has tremendous potential for the province of Saskatchewan. South Korea itself, I believe, is the fourth largest economy in Asia and has 50 million people within it. So it presents a lot of opportunity to our province, to our producers, to businesses across the province, and to our economy.

So we support in principle the agreement that's been reached between Canada and South Korea. Of course we don't know all of the details yet, but we'll certainly be looking at all the details as they continue to emerge. But we're supportive. We're supportive of what we know as far as it relates to the agreement with Saskatchewan, the benefit to Saskatchewan's economy, and the benefits it will bring to our agricultural producers. Sorry, the members opposite are making a little bit of noise . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . What's the question? So as I'm stating and members are making noise, I thought they wanted to enter into the discussion here. As I say, we support the trade agreement that's been put before us and we see a lot of benefits for Saskatchewan, our businesses, our producers, and our economy.

The agreement will eliminate duties on Saskatchewan wheat, flax, canola seed, meal, mustard, rye, and oats. This is certainly a benefit to Saskatchewan producers. It will phase out duties on Saskatchewan chickpeas, lentils, canola oil, beef, and pork, although I know producers would like to see those duties eliminated at a much quicker rate. I know this is an important measure for Saskatchewan pork producers across Saskatchewan. And we need to be certainly always mindful of the challenging environment that they're often facing. So we see this opportunity as a good one.

It will also eliminate duties on forestry and value-added wood products, and it will eliminate duties on Saskatchewan potash. These are very good measures for our agricultural producers, our forestry industry, our potash industry, and for Saskatchewan as a whole.

And we know that when the United States signed its free trade agreement with South Korea, as well as the European Union, when they signed their agreement with South Korea, that created a competitive disadvantage to our exporters, to our country, to our province. We recognize that in 2011, the last year before the United States signed an agreement, the trade agreement with South Korea, our province exported \$195 million worth of wheat to South Korea. By last year wheat shipments had fallen by more than 80 per cent to a value of \$33 million. That speaks to the volume of the trade that we need to rebuild and pick back up, and it speaks to the importance of this trade agreement when the European Union and the United States have entered into deals that, as I say, have caused a competitive disadvantage for our producers, who deserve better.

We've also seen a similar dynamic with canola oil back in 2011 before the US had a free trade agreement with South Korea. Saskatchewan exported \$22 million worth of canola oil to South Korea and by last year that had also fallen by 85 per cent. So this is an important step and an important agreement to regrow our share of that trade and to make sure the markets are broadened for Saskatchewan's producers. So as I've said, a well-negotiated agreement that corrects the competitive disadvantages that have recently been working against our producers and our businesses is certainly a good thing.

We'll continue to speak to a very important matter though that's tied directly to this, and of course that's the need for that government and the federal government to fix the broken transportation system, the grain transportation system and the system that's going to get our exports to market to make sure

we can meet those economic opportunities presented to us. And we're going to continue to press for meaningful action to allow that broken system to be fixed, to make sure our producers have those opportunities to get their world-class products to market.

In terms of the agreement, we like what we know so far. We certainly look forward to further dialogue and discussion of the details as it relates to the full impact, but what we see is positive. We welcome progress on this trade agreement with South Korea, and we support the agreement in principle because supporting and expanding, diversifying our trade relationships, and because we think democratic countries with high standards like South Korea make very good trading partners. For all of this and the opportunity it presents to Saskatchewan people, businesses, producers in our economy, we see a lot of hope and opportunity in this trade deal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** — Will you take the question as read?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Speaker:** — Carried. I recognize . . . Okay. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 14:55 until 15:21.]

**The Speaker:** — All those in favour please rise.

[Yeas — 52]

Wall	Morgan	Stewart
Draude	Duncan	Krawetz
Eagles	McMorris	Cheveldayoff
Harpauer	Toth	Doherty
Norris	Reiter	McMillan
Heppner	Harrison	Wyant
Tell	Weekes	Elhard
Hart	Bradshaw	Bjornerud
Hutchinson	Makowsky	Ottenbreit
Campeau	Wilson	Marchuk
Ross	Kirsch	Michelson
Doke	Cox	Merriman
Jurgens	Steinley	Hickie
Lawrence	Tochor	Moe
Parent	Phillips	Docherty
Brotten	Forbes	Witherspoon
Vermette	Belanger	Chartier
Nilson		

**The Speaker:** — All those opposed please rise.

[Nays — nil]

**Clerk:** — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the motion, 52; those opposed, nil.

**The Speaker:** — The ayes have it. Carried.



## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

## ADJOURNED DEBATES

## SECOND READINGS

## Bill No. 116

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Reiter that **Bill No. 116 — *The Municipalities Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to enter discussion here for a brief time as it relates to Bill No. 116, *The Municipalities Amendment Act*. We've had some discussion on the floor of this Assembly about this Act and the changes. I've reviewed the comments from the minister as it relates to these changes, and we've been doing some consultation with stakeholders and partners of the municipalities all across our province. And we'll continue that work as it relates to this Act.

Certainly I just want to recognize the municipal leaders across this province that are so committed to the well-being of their communities, the future of their communities, and I see it; I see it often. I see it when I step into an RM [rural municipality] office anywhere in this province and sit down with a reeve and council or an administrator. Or I see it as well when we sit down with any one of our mayors and councils across this province.

And I see it, of course, when we see the congregation of these organizations such as last week at the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities for their convention here in Regina last week where you have thousands of delegates, I believe over 1,800 that come together with a commitment to their communities and their province. These are good people that care about their communities and certainly work to make improvements, just the same as those urban municipalities and those leaders and administrators, those mayors and councillors all across this province that are working every day to make a difference in our communities across Saskatchewan. It's those sorts of individuals that we will ensure we've properly consulted on legislation like this.

We see unfortunately, far too often, that current government ram forward with legislative changes without listening to or without properly consulting those directly on the ground. Now I'm not suggesting that that's the case with this legislation here today. We'll make sure we follow up directly with the minister in committee to get a full understanding of the scope of consultations that built this legislation, and make sure we have a full understanding as we've been engaging municipalities of their understanding of this legislation.

Any time there's legislative changes, we want to make sure that the opportunity's been taken to fully understand the consequences intended or unintended on the ground — in this case in communities across Saskatchewan — and making sure as well that you're taking that opportunity to provide the

resources and opportunities required to make sure that the changes are as broad and meet the needs of communities the way that they should.

The minister has brought forward that there's a few different reasons for this legislation. He highlights five key areas as he suggests, and I'll just touch on each of these. The first one the minister suggests provides a better criteria on which to determine whether unincorporated communities and areas have sufficient capacity for local governance and municipal status. So this is important making sure that if they're to take a step and make sure that they're able to incorporate as a community, possibly becoming an organized hamlet, I suspect, or another municipal entity, that they have sufficient capacity and make sure that there's some terms set out, I understand here in this legislation, to make that clear.

I also understand the minister says that another objective of this legislation is to provide objective criteria for action when municipalities are no longer able to function and meet their statutory requirements as local governments. That certainly sounds reasonable, sounds common sense. Certainly we can think of some examples where that may be the case, and we hear these circumstances shared with us from individuals from time to time across the province. We just want to make sure that the provisions put forward, the plan put forward by that government is a respectful one and is common sense and isn't providing that minister with too much of a heavy hand in the democratic affairs of communities. So we want to make sure we analyze it from that perspective. So making sure that they've found the right balance on that front.

The third point that the minister suggests will be achieved through this legislation is to provide more flexibility and choice for interested urban and rural municipalities to voluntarily restructure to form a new type of municipality known as a municipal district. I think the word that's important to me on this piece is voluntary. And you know, I think that that's important for our democratically elected municipal leaders across our province, rural and urban, to make sure that they are able to enter into these sorts of agreements in a voluntary fashion, not forced by government with a heavy hand. And that's the sort of review we'll be providing, this measure right here, to make sure that this is in fact voluntary.

Certainly the benefits of some regional planning and regional districts have a lot of merit, have, you know, a lot of potential. And when we're thinking of making sure we're planning from the opportunity, challenge and pressures and growth we have here today, we need to make sure that we're making the right choices right now and that we're getting the best value for taxpayers' dollars, making sure that we're meeting the needs of entire regions. And so certainly this sort of planning approach in principle is one that we are supportive of.

But it's very important that that minister and that that Premier understand the importance of the piece there, and that's the word being voluntary.

[15:30]

The fifth piece that the minister has spoken to is that the changes he suggests will enhance property owners and the

minister's ability to ensure municipal compliance with legislation and regulations, and constrain potential misuse of local property tax tools and tax abatements. We'll be looking for further detail from the minister on this piece here, certainly to ensure there's measures in place to provide property taxpayers some level of transparency and accountability in the strong measure of transparency and accountability. And improved transparency and accountability is something that we would support.

But we want to get an understanding from the minister what specific scenarios he's identified and specific cases he's possibly dealing with about what he suggests are a misuse of local property tax tools and tax abatements, and non-compliance that he's speaking of in some municipalities. So it's important for that minister to be clear on the circumstances that he's identified, the issues he's dealing with on that front. Because so many, if not the vast, vast majority of our municipal leaders and municipalities are so thoughtful in their work, committed to making a difference, and certainly aren't going to be putting their municipalities in a position of non-compliance or to misuse, as the minister suggests, local property tax tools. So we'll get a full understanding of the number of municipalities he's dealing with, some of the specific cases, what the actions are that the minister's taking now, and how effective are they going to be in addressing the challenge that he's identified.

As we've said, this government has far too often pushed forward with legislation without proper listening to stakeholders. We see that in education. We see the impacts of that in education, the failures of this government to listen to stakeholders. We need to make sure we get this right with the municipalities of Saskatchewan.

We also need to make sure that they're better supported from a perspective around funding the infrastructure they need here in this province. Far too often I see that government and that minister brush off the important role of the provincial government in assisting to build the infrastructure we need in the growing communities across Saskatchewan. So we'll be looking for actions and plans and meaningful resources to go with it in the coming days and weeks on that front. Because it's very important that we, of course, support the municipalities across Saskatchewan, do so in a smart way, support their good work, and that we also understand that the consequences of that government not stepping up to the plate and providing an adequate share to the municipalities of infrastructure dollars falls heavily onto the backs of families already pressured in many cases by affordability, and as well businesses across Saskatchewan.

So what we see is a government over the past little while that's been neglecting an important role of assisting communities to build the infrastructure that we need. We see them abdicating that responsibility and putting that heavily onto the backs of property taxpayers all across Saskatchewan. I know many will identify that. So this is an area as well, we'll continue to advocate with this provincial government to make sure that a meaningful infrastructure plan is put in place to assist our growing communities building the infrastructure they need, and taking the heavy burden off of property taxpayers in Saskatchewan — families and businesses — that's being added

to them in an unhelpful way by this government who's not stepping up to the plate in the way that they need to.

As it relates to the changes brought forward here today, we will certainly examine them in much closer detail. We certainly have questions as it relates to them. We'll do that at the committee structure. So at this point in time, I refer Bill No. 116, *The Municipalities Amendment Act* to committee.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried. Oh, the question before the Assembly is a motion by the minister that Bill No. 116, *The Municipalities Amendment Act* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried.

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

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The bill stands referred to the standing committee on intergovernmental justice and agencies.

#### Bill No. 117

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Reiter that **Bill No. 117** — *The Municipalities Consequential Amendment Act, 2013/Loi de 2013 portant modification corrélative à la loi intitulée The Municipalities Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)* be now read a second time.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. This is simply a follow-up to Bill No. 116, *The Municipalities Amendment Act*, this being the consequential amendments to go with it. The minister's detailed here that this Act makes amendments to one bilingual Act, *The Non-profit Corporations Act, 1995* as a result of the introduction of *The Municipalities Act* that we were just speaking about moments ago.

I don't have a whole bunch to say to this legislation. We've spoke to the important roles already that municipalities fulfill to the people of Saskatchewan, the committed, dedicated municipal leaders that are democratically elected in our rural and urban municipalities across Saskatchewan. Of course we're

thankful for their leadership, as well as we're thankful for the fine administrators in both those municipal and urban municipalities across Saskatchewan.

The minister goes on to say that the change to *The Non-profit Corporations Act, 1995* is required to add a reference to a municipal district to the definition of municipalities. Seems to make sense. And he says that it also provides flexibility and choice for interested urban and rural municipalities to voluntarily join together to form a new type of municipality for the benefit of their residents. So there is a couple of legislative changes here, some consequential changes as it relates to the bill that we've been talking about.

As I've said again and I want to impress it upon that minister once again is that it's really key that those partnerships, those districts are formed in a voluntary fashion and not forced by way of a heavy hand from government. That's something that we're going to make sure we're ensuring is the case as we move forward.

We spoke about the important role of that government doing a better job of stepping up to the plate to actually support the infrastructure funding that our growing communities need because the consequence of not doing that fails to provide our communities with the infrastructure they need to meet the needs of families. And it also falls directly as a heavy cost onto households with a bigger and bigger property tax bill because this government's absent from an important role in funding that infrastructure. And of course that bigger and bigger property tax bill also falls directly back onto business owners, businesses all across the province.

But at this point in time we will follow up with these sorts of questions in committee. We'll also make sure that we continue to track in the coming days the actions of this government as it relates to infrastructure for municipalities across Saskatchewan, knowing the need is pressing, knowing the time is now for them to be providing support to build the infrastructure required across our province.

That being said, I don't have any further questions other than those questions we'll be following up with at the committee structure. Thanks, Mr. Deputy Deputy Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the minister that Bill No. 117, *The Municipalities Consequential Amendment Act, 2013* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried.

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

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I designate that Bill No. 117, *The Municipalities Consequential Amendment Act, 2013* be referred to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — This bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

### Bill No. 118

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Norris that **Bill No. 118** — *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act* be now read a second time.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone-Centre.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair of Committees. I'm glad to join debate on Bill No. 118, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act*. I guess I'll say right off the bat, Mr. Speaker, this seems to be fairly decent legislation. But as I get into my remarks, Mr. Speaker, it's plain, looking at the changes heralded by the minister as this being part of some sort of milestone or landmark legislation for the institution in question, that this in fact amounts to a name change.

And again, Mr. Speaker, while again name changes are fine, and certainly this is an institution where name changes can be used to mark out the different periods of the history of this institution, again in terms of the actual function of the organization, the way that the institute is doing its business in Saskatchewan, the powers accorded to the institution under the other Acts, Mr. Speaker, again I don't know that this is necessarily landmark nor historic. But it is certainly a name change, and of course that name change is to the Saskatchewan Polytechnic from the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology or SIAST.

I've had the pleasure of taking, not a degree or a certificate at SIAST, Mr. Speaker, but I have had the pleasure and the benefit of taking a class at the then SIAST Wascana Campus and as well, Mr. Speaker, through different movies, have been very interested in the work that this institution does in equipping that potential workforce with the actual tools to get the job done out there in the labour force and economy and society, Mr. Chair of Committees.

But to the legislation itself, what is being proposed? First off there is again changing the name from SIAST to becoming a polytechnic. Again fine. Fair enough, Mr. Chair of Committees. Interesting to note that other jurisdictions, as was pointed out in the second reading speech by my colleague from Nutana, in New Zealand the reverse is sort of taking place in terms of polytechnics changing their names to a technical college. But again it's, you know, these changes in the nomenclature, the shift in the lexicon, they happen. They happen in different ways in different parts of the globe, but again does it really change what SIAST is able to do?

In marshalling the arguments for the purpose of this rebranding or this renaming exercise, the minister in his second reading speech referred to enabling SIAST to participate in Polytechnics Canada. And again, fine. In terms of our universities, they certainly participate in their umbrella organizations nationally and that is as it should be. But the thing that's funny in that regards, Mr. Speaker, is that, quoting from the minister's second reading speech:

Mr. Speaker, SIAST is the newest member of Polytechnics Canada and joins other prestigious organizations, including the British Columbia Institute of Technology, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Polytechnic, and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, as well as Red River College.

And again, that's from November 25th, 2013.

Again, Mr. Speaker, for an institution that once upon a time was called the Saskatchewan Technical Institute, with the Moose Jaw campus or the different campuses throughout the province, the way that was consolidated into SIAST and the different campuses of SIAST in, I believe, 1986. And you know, again here we have another change in nomenclature and fair enough.

But it's interesting to note that the minister, in referencing the different institutions that this will supposedly facilitate participation in Polytechnics Canada, the fact that you've got institute of technologies, you've got institute of technologies polytechnic, and colleges, and again, Mr. Speaker, I think that points to the fact that, you know, there wasn't any sort of holdback or barrier to the participation of SIAST in Polytechnics Canada previously. So to bring that in is a bit, a bit of a stretch.

[15:45]

In terms of the association of degree-granting authority with polytechnic institutions, Mr. Speaker, again SIAST already has some degree-granting authority, which is good and as it should be, and again to make sure that you've got both that balance of the offerings and the quality of the credential. Therefore the people of Saskatchewan, when they go to participate in these courses, that's again as it should be. But it is, I would note, Mr. Chair of Committees, not something changed by this legislation. That was the current state of affairs, and all this legislation does is perhaps reiterate and restate that fact. But in terms of a change in law, that status was already in play.

Something that is new, but arguably again they're clarified in law, and that's great — you know, I'm sure every ministry's got their legal drafters that want to make sure that they're earning their keep — but in terms of clarifying the ability of SIAST to fundraise for property, again that's good. There are lots of different ways that people can make donations to support a given institution. And in the case of SIAST to have that clarified again, good, but it's hardly a change in the game as you might say, Mr. Chair of Committees.

I guess that's about all I've got to say for the time being, Mr. Chair of Committees, on this particular piece of legislation. There's a consequential amendments suite that I'll comment further on. But in terms of this legislation, the proof will be in

the pudding as regards to the budget that we get tabled in this legislature on Wednesday, as regards to the support for SIAST or for the Saskatchewan Polytechnic or what have you. And that is I think the one that we're all watching for.

But in terms of what changes flow from this piece of legislation, aside from that ability to more clearly receive property as part of the charitable requests program for SIAST, it's again, in terms of the ability to participate in Polytechnics Canada, in terms of the ability to grant degrees and pursue research and development opportunities, I don't know that this is necessarily neither historic nor a landmark piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker. But it's fine. It's fair enough.

And I guess one of the other questions that we'll certainly pursue in committee is, you know, in terms of the rebranding exercise. There are always predicted benefits and expected costs that go into something like this, Mr. Speaker. So is this a variation on the landmark public administration effort of this government to change the title of departments to ministries? Well, we'll find out, Mr. Chair of Committees, what is the cost in terms of signage and letterhead and all the other things that go with branding, again for SIAST which has done a very successful job of getting its name out there in the community, and in terms of being a real institution of choice for many Saskatchewan people and indeed people throughout Canada and around the world.

Those are some questions that we'll have in committee, Mr. Chair of Committees, but for the time being we're, on the official opposition side, prepared to see this piece of legislation, Bill 118, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act* moved to committee.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The question before the Assembly is the motion by the minister that Bill No. 118, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried.

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

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I designate that Bill No. 118, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act* be referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — This bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services.

**Bill No. 119**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Norris that **Bill No. 119 — *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Consequential Amendments Act, 2013/Loi de 2013 portant modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act*** be now read a second time.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — I recognize the member from Regina Elphinstone.

**Mr. McCall:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair of Committees. Pleased to join debate on Bill No. 119, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Consequential Amendments Act, 2013*. Again *Loi de 2013 portant modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Act*. Again, Mr. Speaker, there's been consequential amendments. The substance, as is often the case, is in the preceding bill. Certainly that's the case in 118, and these are changes arising consequentially from Bill No. 118.

Now as I've just discussed, Mr. Chair of Committees, Bill No. 118 is hardly — I don't know — ground shaking, earth-shattering in terms of its legislation. It's a fine enough piece of legislation in and of itself, but essentially what it accomplishes, Mr. Chair of Committees, is a name change moving from SIAST to the Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

A lot of the things that the minister referenced in his second reading speech for the preceding Act, Bill 118, are already part of the mandate of SIAST. And be it the granting of degrees, be it the participation in the Polytechnics Canada, again, Mr. Speaker, the main sort of change is clarifying the ability to receive property as a donation to the institution. Great, but as we change from SIAST to Saskatchewan Polytechnic, again we'll be interested to see what sort of costs are involved in terms of rebranding, renaming, ordering new letterhead, ordering new signage, launching new campaigns, and again for a trademark that was very well regarded in the community and indeed across this country and broadly.

Fair enough, Mr. Speaker. We've seen similar changes like this before, moving from the Saskatchewan institute of technology — I believe the member from Saskatoon Southeast was a student there once upon a time — moving to SIAST where I certainly had the pleasure of taking a class and a number of family and friends have had opportunity to take classes and certificates at SIAST, Mr. Speaker, and now moving to the era of Saskatchewan Polytechnic. Again that's fine; that's great, but there are more meaningful ways that this government can aid and promote the work of be it SIAST or be it the Saskatchewan Polytechnic. And we'll be seeing the measure of those supports coming with the budget to be tabled here relatively shortly, Mr. Chair of Committees.

Again as regards the specific changes in the legislation, there are consequential amendments to the bilingual enactments of *The Education Act, 1995* and *The Teacher Certification and Classification Regulations, 2002*, again of, you know, strictly technical in nature reads heavy, heavy-duty housekeeping, Mr. Speaker, but pertaining to quite literally changing from where it said SIAST in the old legislation to Saskatchewan Polytechnic

in the new legislation.

So again hardly the stuff the Caramilk secret is made of, Mr. Chair of Committees, and with that we are prepared to see the discussion of this legislation at the committee stage. And so at this time the official opposition is prepared to see this Bill No. 119 moved to committee.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the minister that Bill No. 119, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Consequential Amendments Act* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried.

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

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman of Committees. I designate that Bill No. 119, *The Saskatchewan Polytechnic Consequential Amendments Act, 2013* be referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services.

**Bill No. 120**

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Wyant that **Bill No. 120 — *The Lobbyists Act*** be now read a second time.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — I recognize the member from Regina Rosemont.

**Mr. Wotherspoon:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to enter into debate of Bill No. 120, *The Lobbyists Act*, here this afternoon. Certainly this Act has been long awaited by many in this province — and in many ways slow walked by government — to make sure that we have in place in Saskatchewan a modern, effective, common sense piece of lobbyists legislation that ensures that it provides some transparency and accountability to advocacy and lobbying.

I would want to say that it's important for us to recognize, as part of a healthy democracy, the activities of advocacy or lobbying are natural and in many ways important. That's important to the strength and effectiveness of a government and to an opposition and to democracy as a whole. So this legislation, the goal of this legislation should be to be simply providing a level of transparency and accountability to that

advocacy, to that lobbying.

But I want to make sure that I recognize that as part of a healthy democracy, it's very important that a group of individuals or that respective organizations or those with specific interests are able to share their perspective. And it's the responsibility, and an important responsibility, of a government and of elected members to understand where organizations, where people, where businesses are coming from and what their goals are and how that fits into the process.

But it is very important that we do have organizations and people across the province advocating the kinds of changes that they understand or that they feel they need on the ground in their communities or in their places of work to drive the change they believe to be important.

We'll be making sure that this is simply not window dressing. We want to make sure that this is an effective Act. And that's certainly important. We will have some discussion at the committee structure as to who this includes and who it excludes. And we want to make sure that that inclusion and exclusion list is appropriate because I think there's some questions that exist on that front. If one organization is included, why are other organizations not included in that registry?

We want to make sure of course as well that this works for organizations, for people, for associations to connect with government and elected officials, but for Saskatchewan people to have some transparency and accountability provided back to them as it relates to the advocating and lobbying that may occur to a government or to elected members. So we have questions on these fronts as we move forward.

I do want to recognize the work of the committee, and I know that they engaged in a process where they received various submissions, presentations, and examples that exist across Canada. I want to thank all committee members, frankly, for their service on that committee, and I want to specifically thank the member for Nutana representing the opposition on that process.

And I know that the member from Nutana . . . I also want to thank her for when the final report was put together and the recommendations were put forward, the member from Nutana put forward two very constructive pieces and put forward a minority position and some minority recommendations. And I believe that, if I understand it correctly, one of those recommendations was accepted by the minister, and that's something that certainly I value and that I appreciate. As it relates to the other recommendation that wasn't accepted, I look forward to the committee process and the member from Nutana and other members being able to seek some clarity as to why that recommendation wasn't adopted.

[16:00]

So I thank all members for their contributions. I'd like to thank any organizations across Saskatchewan who have contributed to this piece of legislation. As I've said, we do feel that this piece of legislation has been slow walked by government to get to the floor of the Assembly and to be enacted. That being said, we'll

certainly work to make sure that we have an effective lobbyist registry here in the province.

And I'd also like to recognize that sometimes the word lobby, as I say, has a sinister sort of tone to it almost, and in some cases that's fair. But in many cases, when I think of the organizations across Saskatchewan and associations across Saskatchewan and communities across Saskatchewan and businesses across Saskatchewan who may engage, providing their ideas, their possible solutions, their concerns, their needs to government and to opposition, this is something that's important in bettering our province and allowing various perspectives to be heard, as long as government of the day and members understand who they're there to represent, being all Saskatchewan people.

So this lobbyist Act is potentially a good step forward, but we need to make sure we get it right, and we'll continue to make contributions through the committee process to ensure we do just that. So with that being said, Mr. Speaker, we look forward as an opposition to having discussions and questions that we have satisfied and heard at the committee structure. Thank you.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Is the Assembly ready for the question?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — The question before the Assembly is a motion by the minister that Bill No. 120, *The Lobbyists Act* be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — Carried.

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

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I designate that Bill No. 120, *The Lobbyists Act* be referred to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — This bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

#### Bill No. 122

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer that **Bill No. 122** — *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2013 (No. 2)/Loi n° 2 de 2013 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard* be now read a second time.]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tochor):** — I recognize the member for Regina Lakeview.

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'm pleased to rise to speak to Bill No. 122, *An Act to amend The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act, 1997*. And, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of changes that are being made to this particular legislation that makes the rules clearer for First Nations gaming licensing authority. It also allows for some other corporate structures to be available for the Liquor and Gaming Authority. And basically I think there are quite a number of amendments to regulations that allow for a more efficient operation of the whole liquor and gaming licensing situation in Saskatchewan.

So practically we've got a fairly substantial bill. It has lots of pages compared to some of the other ones we've been looking at, but ultimately what's being done here relates to sorting out new rules that maybe more accurately reflect what's happening in society at this time. I don't think that they moved to some of the wide open or more open situations that we have in some other jurisdictions in Canada or in the United States, but there is a recognition that the responsible use of alcohol is part of how our society operates.

It's clear that the abuse of alcohol, it still is an important issue to be dealt with within the province. And so any changes that affect that area are of concern I think to people that are here. But basically what are some of the changes that are made here? And I think we need to go through the legislation to take a look at what some of the changes are.

It's interesting that one of the first changes relates to the ability for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority to issue a liquor permit to an Indian band. And so therefore we've ended up having to have a definition of an Indian band, and then also to deal with the whole issue of on-reserve certificates of registration and on-reserve activities versus off-reserve. And effectively this requires this legislation and rules under this legislation that would then facilitate the ability of the provincial government to enter into agreements with the First Nations gaming authorities to make sure that there are effective rules that cover the whole province.

This often becomes a challenge as we move forward because there often aren't as clear as arrangements as everybody would like as to what differences there may be and what authority there may be. And so it's hoped that this legislation will provide some of that clarity that will allow for the operation of the, obviously casinos and other hotels and things that are located on First Nations, and for the activities which are working and operating right across the province, no matter what local jurisdiction is involved in governing the activity.

And so some of the changes that we have here do relate to those kinds of issues. And also one of the ways that the Liquor and Gaming Authority regulates the business of the gaming side and the alcohol side — but more the gaming side — relates to how they license and how they define who are employees and how they . . . what authority they have as effectively certified employees under the gaming legislation.

And so practically what this legislation attempts to do is to further define those relationships and then goes into a whole number of areas, whether it's . . . [inaudible] . . . or whether it's how you actually can transfer the ability to do different activities and make sure that there is a continual line of

responsibility in these activities.

And so that's important because many of these issues don't, you know, aren't really issues in the community until a problem arises. It's then when there's an attempt to enforce or deal with a particular incident that the laws then have to be crystal clear as to how they should be applied. And I think some of the changes that we have in this legislation do come out of various enforcement efforts that have not been as clear in their result as everybody anticipated, and so the goal here is to try to clarify the places where there are problems.

It's a bit hard in this Assembly to actually sort out exactly what these particular rules are meant to combat, and I think we'll probably have a chance in the committee to ask a lot of questions about some of the specific clauses and what incident or what story or what history there is to the problem that we have. Because you create fairly complicated legislation. You work at making sure that it's operating in the most effective way that it can, and then when there are . . . problems arise when you come back and change the legislation.

Unfortunately in the minister's comments we don't have specific incidents described there. I think that is actually a place where questions in committee can provide further information and guidance for us as legislators, but also for lawyers and judges if matters later end up going to court. And so we'll be asking questions about why some of these specific amendments have been made and what the intent is.

I know for example in some material that was provided under section 5, there's an amendment here which gives the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority discretion to both assess a combined monetary penalty and a suspension against a permittee or a registrant. And this is there to specifically correct a situation where in court or in some kind of an administrative hearing the section that exists now was interpreted to say that you had to be either or; it couldn't be both. And so that's an example of the kinds of technical things that are being discussed in the legislation that, I mean I think they make sense, but practically we may need to hear a bit more about that particular example as to why this provision has been brought forward.

Now another interesting aspect of the legislation itself is that the Liquor and Gaming Authority at this stage doesn't have the ability to set up subsidiary corporations, and so this legislation is adding a new clause that allows for subsidiary corporations. We don't know why that provision is being added. It could be related to some new business ventures that they want to enter into. It could relate to maybe some joint public-private operations that are going to go ahead where they would need some different corporate structures. It could relate to the new building that they're putting out on the Global Transportation Hub, or we're not sure what this particular clause relates to.

But it does raise the question that was prominent in the review of all of the finances of the province 22 years ago, which is, will all of the subsidiary operations be fully accountable to the government, to the auditors, to everyone else? And we will want to ask some questions about this whole concept of creating SLGA [Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority] subsidiaries to make sure that there's a business reason for it, an

important reason for it, and not that it's some way to figure out another path to borrow money or to do projects that would not be accountable to the legislature. So that's a question that we have.

Now there are also issues that continue around conflict of interest, and once again there are some very serious consequences around conflict of interest as it relates to both the liquor rules and the gaming rules, and so it's important that these types of rules be as clear as possible. And so practically we need to ask some questions about that.

[16:15]

Also then once you actually have a charge laid or a complaint laid against a registrant or someone who is licensed under the legislation, you end up with a whole hearing process. And so practically there are some changes being made to the process of the hearings, whether it's the notice provisions or the actual process in the hearing itself. Those kinds of things are I think good, but we need to understand why they're being done. We don't have very much information from the minister yet on how some of these changes will assist with the ultimate goal of the legislation which is to provide an orderly and reasonable way to license both liquor issues and gaming issues.

And so there are changes then to that whole enforcement process including the hearings that are part of what we're seeing here, and we need to make sure that those things are being dealt with appropriately.

There are a whole number of housekeeping kind of changes, and I don't think that many of them are of much consequence to individuals who are governed by this legislation, but practically they are changes made in response to suggestions from both civil servants who work in this area but also, I'm sure, individual people who are governed by the legislation.

There's a clause in section 13 that makes some amendments around how a commission can deal with matters where there's complaints or concerns. And this clause gives some more power to the commission that's dealing with these matters to basically postpone or adjourn a matter if somebody doesn't show up. Right now the only option for people, or for the commission, is to make a decision based on the material that's been filed. And I think we can all see that there may be situations where that's not appropriate, where the filed material isn't up to date or there's something that's missing. And this gives much more flexibility to the commission, and I think that's a positive change that's here in the legislation. But once again, it may be helpful for all of us to actually hear about the situation or situations where this arose so that we have on the record for future decision makers, on the commission or in the courts, a little bit of the background of why these changes were made.

So there are continued clarifications of the processes involved and setting up some limitation periods which are very clear. We'll have questions about that in committee, but at this stage we don't really know why the changes are being made.

So the next section, which I guess is section 15 of the amending legislation, deals with all of the issues around suspensions or cancellations by a First Nations gaming licensing authority.

And these rules have been put into one place, and I think practically they will clarify and make it easier for people who are caught in that whole process to know what their responsibilities are and what powers the commission has in dealing with them.

And as we move on in the legislation, I think there are more places where that clarity is there clearly, and it's a recognition that, when you have a First Nations licensing agency involved as well, you need to have some very specific rules about the interplay with what's happening with that agency.

Okay. Now once again there are . . . This is a bilingual Act and so there are changes that have to be made to the bilingual Act to make sure it's in line with the English version of the Act as both versions have full force of the law. And so there are some changes that will happen there as well.

Another interesting aspect of this particular legislation is section 24. And effectively what the legislation does is extend the authority that the legislation has over those physical areas, those parts of the province, the land and the province, that's presently on a First Nation. And this corrects a problem, obviously, that's arisen, in that the present Act does not seem to fully cover all parts of the province.

And one of the reasons this came up was that the legislation talked about municipalities as the group that covers the whole province, and on top of that, the northern Saskatchewan administration district, provincial and regional parks, and summer and winter resort areas, or a national park. But obviously there was a case or an incident that arose where a First Nation said, well we're not part of the municipality and so therefore we're not covered under this legislation. And so no matter what other parts of this legislation get thrown out, this particular clause does appear to set some clarity on that issue.

We haven't heard or seen anything that suggests that First Nations have been consulted about this particular part of the legislation, and that will be something that we will want to ask when we go to committee. Because if in fact the courts have held or the commission has held that the legislation doesn't apply on First Nations, that has all kinds of implications for the liquor and gaming licensing legislation of the province.

And so I would see that that particular section, section 24, is one that requires further conversation in committee and further clarification by the minister and officials as to what particular situation arose that ended up having this particular amendment coming forth. It may be that that's the one incident that allowed for the legislation to be reopened, and then all these other changes are being made because the legislation's open. But I don't know that for sure. That's just my speculation.

As we proceed through the legislation — we're getting closer to the end of it here — there are more definitions that deal with the specific questions that arise around this issue of whether the legislation applies on a First Nation. And if it does, then it sets out how some of the clauses will be interpreted in that situation. The assumption of the legislation is that it applies to every square inch of Saskatchewan, and that if there are places where it doesn't cover, then we're going to fix that and we're going to make it so that there's a rule like that.



Now one of the interesting clauses in the legislation that reflects the changes in how society operates is section 33 of the amending legislation which amends, or actually deletes section 76. And I will read you the existing clause 76 because it's a bit interesting:

**76(1)** Subject to subsection (2), the authority may require any permittee to whom a permit for the sale of beer is issued to have available for sale in his or her permitted premises, in reasonable quantities at all times, one or more of the brands or kinds of beer produced by each permitted manufacturer in Saskatchewan other than a permitted manufacturer mentioned in subsection (2).

And then subsection (2) says:

This section does not apply to a manufacturer who is a permittee and whose products are not sold by any person other than the manufacturer through premises for which the manufacture holds a permit.

Now obviously there's brew pubs providing beer that they make on their premises. They don't have to have the products of all the other ones. But if you have some products from Saskatchewan producers, then you need to have a whole array.

Well this legislation eliminates that clause and eliminates something I guess which is a bit of an anomaly and clearly restricts the choices available to a vendor or a permittee, as they call it, to sell products. But obviously the original clauses were there to protect Saskatchewan producers of alcoholic products, and at obviously a certain time in the history of Canada, that was an important factor. We know that every province had these rules that protected their own local markets, and when those rules started to fall apart is when the production was concentrated in a few spots across Western Canada.

We know that breweries for example in Saskatchewan were in Saskatoon and Regina, Prince Albert, I think maybe even Moose Jaw at one point, and a few other places. But when the rules around making sure that products were produced in Saskatchewan were relaxed or eliminated, the beer was produced primarily I think in Edmonton and Vancouver. And now when you have the size of some of the breweries that we have that are world-class size, including the Molson Coors brewery in Golden, Colorado, or some of the ones that are around Milwaukee, effectively you don't need production in very many places to cover the whole market with these international products.

But the flip side of that is that — and this legislation I think reflects that — is that many local businesses are able to start breweries or brew pub products, and we actually have a much greater array of choices around beer in Saskatchewan or in Alberta or British Columbia or Manitoba than we've had for many, many years. And most of the time that's a good thing as most of these types of beer are quite good.

And so practically here we have the legislative amendment that gets rid of a part of our history and gets rid of a part of that old system of one jurisdiction controlling what happens with a particular activity. So it's interesting to look at all of the issues that are there.

Now the next section, 34, is another amending section which actually removes some fairly substantial issues. And it's not entirely clear how this is used, but I know it has a long history in the province as it relates to the whole issue of prohibition because at one point you were able to get alcohol from your veterinarian or from your pharmacist or from your dentist or your doctor for medicinal purposes that kind of overrode any of the prohibitions against the use of alcohol. And this clause, the clause that's there which is section 77 in the existing legislation or section 34 in this amending legislation, basically gets rid of this whole idea of medical permits or the ability or the necessity to have a permit for using an alcohol product for a pet or for some other of these medicinal purposes.

[16:30]

And so it doesn't totally eliminate the concept in the sense that if you're a medical or veterinary professional, you have to get your alcohol products through the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, but it does eliminate a lot of the licensing processes that were there.

And so once again it's an interesting 21st century perspective on legislation. And so I think we'll have a chance to ask the minister about this because it is a bit interesting where there is still some power left within the Liquor and Gaming Authority to deal with these types of uses of alcohol, but I think practically the intervention of the state in this area is getting less and less and less.

So another section that's here is section 38. And right now if you're an educational institution that teaches bartending or mixology, you have to get a specific licence from the Liquor and Gaming Authority to allow for the authorization of use of alcohol in your institution. And this provision here will eliminate the necessity of getting a permit for that type of work. Practically it's less administrative burden on the educational institutions and also for SLGA, so I don't think we have any problem with that. But once again it's an interesting thing that's happening here.

Another clause that's being added or further defined relates to beverage alcohol as denatured and not fit for consumption on its own. This will add further definitions about that so that that particular type of product is controlled, and it's clear here how it can be distributed within the province. And so once again there are these changes that are taking place to our whole system and obviously they're in response to different incidents that have arisen. And practically if there are any questions, well we will have them answered by the minister and staff in committee.

Now another area which is I think effectively trying to deal with a situation where underage people work in restaurants, there are some clarifications around the rules around how that underage person can be part of the service in the restaurant. And that's a practical change that I think is an attempt to deal with what are some technical problems. I know some restaurants that I've been into in other jurisdictions would have a line on the floor and if you're sitting on one side of the line, the 16-year-old server couldn't bring your meal to you. They had to get another person to take it across the line. I think this whole idea is saying that's maybe a little bit of overkill and let's make sure we don't

have that kind of a situation in Saskatchewan. So as I say, there are lots of interesting changes that are being made around how minors can be employed and what things they can do.

So another interesting change is section 44, and that's where we repeal section 121 of the existing legislation because it removes the requirement that a permittee does not install or allow the installation of tables and seating that exceeds an amount set by SLGA. This provision isn't required anymore, it says because SLGA doesn't set capacity rules anymore. I think all of us remembered seeing the licence on the wall that would say, I don't know, so many tables and so many people allowed into a particular licensed establishment. I think that kind of a provision has been eliminated, and this further eliminates it from the rules that we have.

So it's once again I think positive, but there may be some questions that we'll have around some of these things because once again, it's a particular incident that's arisen that has created the need for the change in the legislation.

And once again it's about the history of how we regulated the use of alcohol in this province and how that has changed. I guess we're getting close to almost 100 years to all of the really strong prohibition legislation that was introduced across the country. And it had a fair number of benefits on one side, both for the people that operated on the side, and also for some of the communities. And it was clearly a response to the abuse of alcohol that was general in some of the pioneering communities of the province that had been created.

And I suppose I could reference the fact that another restaurant and good place to have a meal with wine in Moose Jaw burned down this week right next to River Street, which was notorious 100 years ago. And in some ways it was places like River Street and all of the bars and liquor establishments there that were the original impetus for the kind of legislation that we are now undoing.

And so I think practically we see how things change, and we also see how we still have to be on our guard about the safe use of alcohol, and maybe the rules don't need to be quite so prescriptive, which is what we're seeing with this particular legislation.

So now I think practically that most of the changes at the end of the legislation result, will relate to some of the enforcement provisions, and then obviously there's a whole section of regulatory changes that are required. So the regulatory power in existing section 185 has been expanded somewhat, and that's in section 58 of this amending Bill No. 122.

So practically, the provisions of this legislation will be implemented and proclaimed and put in place, I'm sure, in sections as the regulations that back up the legislation are put in place. I wouldn't be surprised if it takes two or three years for all of the regulations to be in place that deal with all of the specific issues in this Bill No. 122.

But practically, we have a piece of legislation that looks like it responds to the needs that are there in the community. We have quite a bit of information about how those needs are being responded to. But when we end up going forward with the

legislation, I think there will be other questions.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I know I've talked for a little while on this, but a number of my other colleagues are interested in speaking to this particular legislation. So at this point I will adjourn debate. Thank you.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — The member from Regina Lakeview has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 122. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — Carried.

### Bill No. 123

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Duncan that **Bill No. 123 — *The Miscellaneous Statutes Repeal Act, 2013 (No. 2)*** be now read a second time.]

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise to speak to Bill No. 123, *An Act to repeal miscellaneous obsolete Public and Private Statutes and to make certain consequential amendments*.

And so, Mr. Speaker, this particular legislation is being brought forward to repeal a number of public and private health Acts that the minister has deemed them to be, I guess, obsolete and outdated. But I think it's interesting to actually take a look at the legislation that's listed in this particular Act. And sometimes the present perspective on the legislation maybe needs to be reconciled or dealt with in conjunction with the legislation that was originally there.

I think one of the pieces, the first piece, the signature piece of the legislation that's being repealed is *The Dental Care Act*. And as we all know, *The Dental Care Act* was an important part of the legislation brought forward by Premier Blakeney in the '70s, and it had basically a whole system of care, dental care for children in our school systems. And I know years ago when I was the Health minister, I'd often run into people who had their birthday, sort of, in the '70s who talked about how they made it to, you know, adulthood without a single dental problem because of this very efficient system of care of their teeth.

And so you know, you end up wanting to applaud the perspective that was taken at that point to make sure that dental care was part of a broader part, a broader aspect of health care and quite a practical way of providing that care through the school system. And clearly the dentists were involved in the dental care when there were more major problems identified, but much of the screening and the fluoride treatments and those kinds of things, initial examinations were done in the dental offices that were located in elementary schools. And I think every elementary school had that particular nurse's dental care station and people were provided with that care.

Now when the government changed in 1982, there was a pretty

strong lobby to change this legislation. It took a number of years before that happened, but eventually that whole system was dismantled. But one of the legacies of the system was all of these children in Saskatchewan that had no cavities. They grew up without cavities, and it's an interesting experiment.

I know a number of years ago, I was in an international health policy discussion in Salt Lake City with officials from the American Dental Association, and one of the people who was part of the discussion had been one of the administrators of this program here in Saskatchewan who was now out in British Columbia. And when he explained this whole program to the dentists who were there from the American Dental Association — and there were a number of them that were very much what we would call community dentists in some of the areas of their cities that didn't have a lot of resources — they were quite intrigued by this.

And since that time there have been initiatives, one in Alaska that has in some ways been modelled on what was done in Saskatchewan to provide dental care across broad spaces where . . .

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

**Mr. Ottenbreit:** — With leave to introduce guests, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — The member from Yorkton has asked for leave to introduce guests. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Yorkton.

[16:45]

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Mr. Ottenbreit:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And thanks to the member across for allowing leave to introduce some special guests of mine. In the west gallery is a very special niece to me, Ms. Petra Ottenbreit-Born. With her is her friend, Maelle Magnan. They are doing a social studies project focusing on our heritage, and the girls chose the Legislative Building for part of their project. And Petra knows this as Uncle Greg's work, so they've come to visit me here today.

Along with them is Petra's mom, my only sister and younger sister Glenna and my brother-in-law Wybo. And Glenna's a physiotherapist in Regina here, Mr. Deputy Speaker. My brother-in-law Wybo is a grade 2 teacher, French immersion teacher at Elsie Mironuck School here in Regina as well. I'd ask all members to welcome them to their Legislative Assembly.

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

#### ADJOURNED DEBATES

#### SECOND READINGS

#### Bill No. 123 — *The Miscellaneous Statutes Repeal Act, 2013 (No. 2)* (continued)

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to have a elementary school teacher here to hear about this whole program of dental care that we did have in our province many years ago.

But one of the things, one of the reasons I wanted to raise this today was that I know, as I said, in the state of Alaska they now have developed a system that was based on the system we had here because of the fact they don't have dentists to go to many of the far-flung parts of Alaska. But there's also some similar programs going on in the state of Minnesota and a few other states to make sure that dental care is provided across the whole spectrum.

And what we're doing here is we're . . . The minister's brought forward this particular legislation to repeal it, and I imagine it's to say, well we don't want to have any memory of that particular program here. But I think it is the type of concept, it's the type of idea that we may need to look at again as we provide care across the province, and it may be a factor that is there as people look at how health services are provided across Saskatchewan. So that's section 2 of this legislation, repeals *The Dental Care Act*.

The next section 3 is the repeal of the Act called *The Medical and Hospitalization Tax Repeal Act*. And effectively people don't always remember it, but there was a hospitalization tax or medical tax that was across the province on your property taxes. And it's been quite a long time since that happened. I think this particular legislation relates to that. You would end up having your education tax, but also a tax related to some other activities within your local area. And so it's a recognition once again that some of the solutions that were used to provide services to people changed and so this particular bill was brought forward here.

Now the next piece of legislation that's been removed is *The Mutual Medical and Hospital Benefit Associations Act*. And this one's a little more complicated in a way. But effectively what this relates to is one method that community clinics were . . . one Act whereby community clinics were created. And so we now have legislation that allows for a couple of other ways that community clinics are incorporated, so this one isn't needed. But at one time, it was a recognition that there would be an association that was . . . where people would come together to figure out how to fund locally — not on a province-wide basis — some of their medical and hospital benefits.

And so once again, this is a piece of the history of Saskatchewan which is being eliminated. And if you go down to section 8, you see that this was like an insurance premium because clearly *The Insurance Premiums Tax Act* has to be amended when this is changed because under our taxes on insurance premiums, which a lot of people don't even realize are there, this was another place where taxes were collected by the provincial government on a form of insurance which was under *The Mutual Medical and Hospital Associations Act*. So once again it's a time of change or a time in how we do particular things. Clearly at one point it was important to come

together as local communities to make sure everybody in your local community would have sufficient care both on the medical side and on the hospital side.

Section 5 of this legislation relates to the fourth public Act which is repealed and that's the Saskatchewan citizens' heritage program Act. And so this one is being repealed. This is another interesting piece of legislation because it relates to the specific break that was given to senior citizens — those citizens of the province aged 65 and over — as it related to their property taxes on their homes. And it was a way of acknowledging that many of our senior citizens didn't have as much income as other members of the community and if they were going to be able to stay in their homes, there had to be a rebate program that provided them a little bit of an extra cushion.

Now we haven't had that for quite a number of years in the province but with the cost of living going up and the cost of housing going up, it does raise the question of what will our 21st century response be to people who have a difficult time affording their taxes on their home as well as their utilities as well as all of the other expenses related to where they live. And I could foresee the day where there may be some other form of benefit that helps people who are seniors or there may have some other definitions included that will give a special benefit to people so that they can stay in their homes. And as we know, that used to be an issue maybe more in the cities in the province and not so much in some of the smaller communities. But now we see in smaller communities the costs are going up in equivalent ways, and in some of the smaller cities in the province, there are some pretty substantial costs in how that all works.

And so here we have a program that's been on the books, and all it would have taken was to put in a new regulation and put some new amounts into the benefits that's there and once again you could have had a program that provides some tax relief on people's living areas.

So there we have four pieces of legislation which are being repealed by this Bill No. 123, and this title of the bill is *An Act to repeal miscellaneous obsolete Public and Private Statutes*. Well I think it's, you know, a question of whether the concepts are obsolete. I would argue that the dental care issue has not been resolved. We still have a number of issues around there. So maybe this bill is old, but the concept of providing dental care is not an obsolete concept and is one that we will need to address.

I think the medical and hospitalization tax and the mutual medical and hospital benefits association legislation, which is sections 3 and 4, they once again are maybe from a different time and place about how we provide services. And I think there'd be a little more of a sense that those ones are obsolete. But once again it's about how we provide for our families and friends and neighbours in these kinds of care.

And then section 5, which is the senior citizens' heritage program, where it's assistance on cost of living, I think there are many seniors in our province right now who would say this would be something that could give them some hope, give them a bit of help, and maybe deal with some of the pressures that are there. We may revisit this whole issue as some of the pressures

further build up.

And then the second division of this particular legislation relates to the consequential amendments and practically, when you've eliminated the four public Acts that we talk about, you have some other amendments required. And so obviously *The Dental Care Act*, the whole dental disciplines Act has to be, a portion of that has to be repealed that references *The Dental Care Act*, and so that's what happens in section 6.

In section 7 there's a reference to *The Health Information Protection Act* as it relates to some of this legislation. And so that one is, a section of that is repealed. And as I indicated before, you can't charge premiums, insurance premium tax on an insurance premium that no longer exists. And so that part has been changed.

And then there's some changes that need to be made to *The Pharmacy Act*, I think, to reference use of certain medications in facilities that are part of that whole legislation.

So then part II of the Act relates to a whole number of private Acts that are repealed. And this is a bit of an interesting one but I think, as I read through all of the sections, we'll see that this does relate to a change in how the Catholic hospitals of Saskatchewan have been organized. And it used to be that each particular institution had its own legislation.

So you have in section 10 legislation, private member's bill, or private Act to deal with the Lady Minto Union Hospital in Edam. Well we don't hear much about that place anymore, and so this is recognizing that this legislation can be changed. But I know the different successors, a lot of this is the Catholic hospital association or health care association of Saskatchewan.

Section 11 relates to Les Soeurs de la Charite de Notre Dame d'Evron. And that's a place that I'm not sure any of us have seen. I'm not quite sure where that one is, actually.

The next section, 12, relates to a tax exemption for certain property of the Sisters of Charity, which is the Providence Hospital in Moose Jaw. And as we know, that has been changed and is in part of the Five Hills health district now.

Section 13 is *An Act to incorporate Regina Grey Nuns' Hospital* — Pasqua Hospital as we know it now and that's there.

Section 14 is *An Act to incorporate St. Joseph's Hospital (Grey Nuns) of Gravelbourg*. And that's repealed. And that's a hospital I think that, well it's still providing good service down in that area, but a little bit different name and different structure.

Then there's an Act here that was confirming an agreement between the city of Yorkton and the Yorkton Union Hospital board. That one obviously is from another era, another time. And then we get to . . .

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

**Mr. Docherty:** — Introduction of guests.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — The member from Regina Coronation Park has asked for leave to introduce guests. Is leave granted?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

**Mr. Docherty:** — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd also like to join my colleague from Yorkton in welcoming the Ottenbreit family. They're constituents of mine, and it's really a pleasure to have you in the gallery. And again I'd like to have all the members here welcome you to your Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

#### ADJOURNED DEBATES

##### SECOND READINGS

**Bill No. 123 — *The Miscellaneous Statutes  
Repeal Act, 2013 (No. 2)*  
(continued)**

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

**Mr. Nilson:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In light of the time and extra things that I need to say about this, at this point I will request that we adjourn debate on Bill No. 123.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — The member from Regina Lakeview has moved to adjourn debate on Bill No. 123. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

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

**Hon. Mr. Harrison:** — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In order to facilitate work of committees tonight, I move that this House do now adjourn.

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

**Some Hon. Members:** — Agreed.

**The Deputy Speaker:** — This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

[The Assembly adjourned at 17:00.]

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