



FOURTH SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

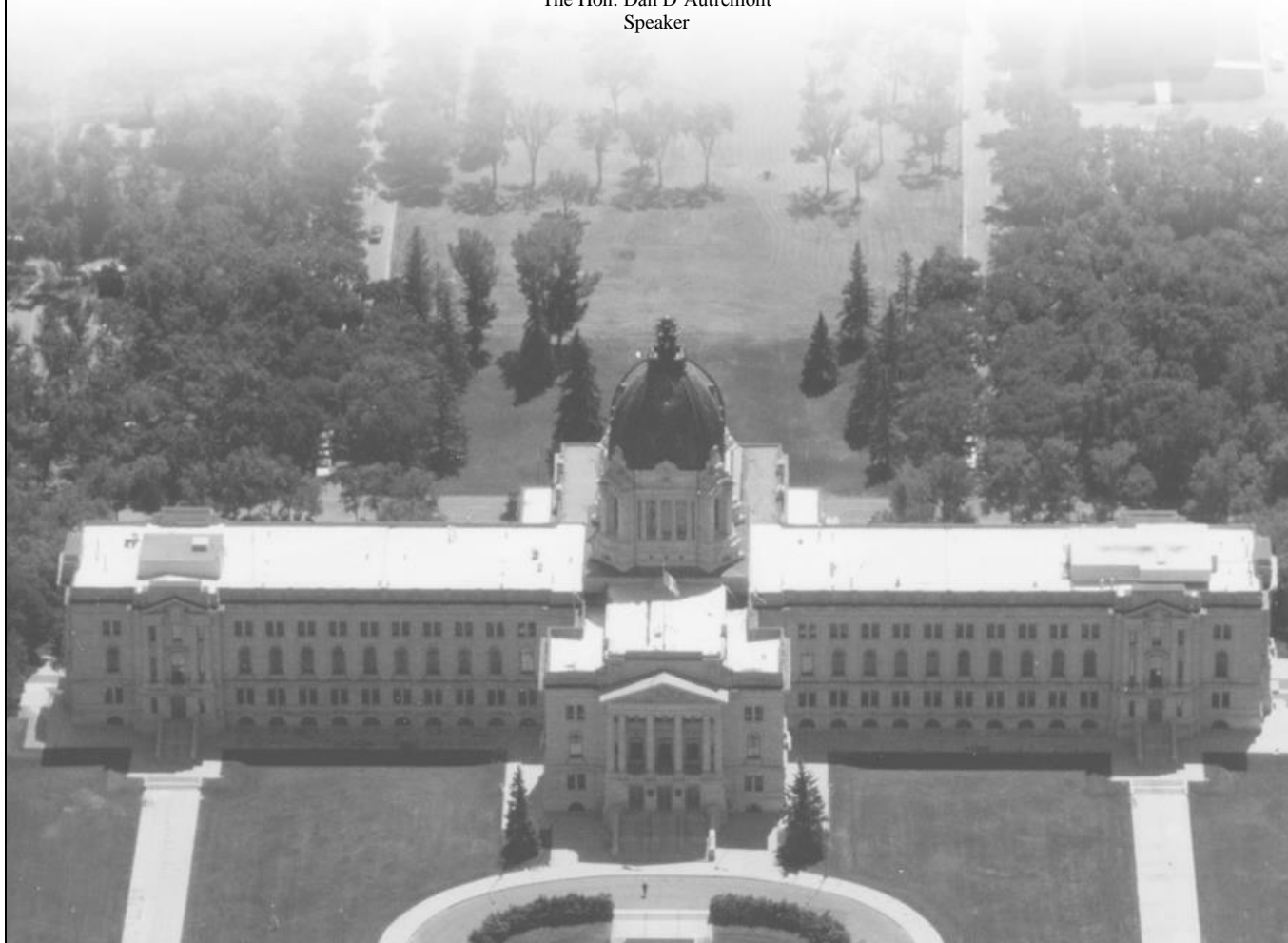
of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
and
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the
authority of
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

Name of Member	Political Affiliation	Constituency
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, Hon. 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, Hon. Mark	SP	Regina Coronation Park
Doherty, Hon. Kevin	SP	Regina Northeast
Doke, Larry	SP	Cut Knife-Turtleford
Draude, June	SP	Kelvington-Wadena
Duncan, Hon. Dustin	SP	Weyburn-Big Muddy
Eagles, Doreen	SP	Estevan
Elhard, Wayne	SP	Cypress Hills
Forbes, David	NDP	Saskatoon Centre
Harpauer, Hon. Donna	SP	Humboldt
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy	SP	Meadow Lake
Hart, Glen	SP	Last Mountain-Touchwood
Heppner, Hon. Nancy	SP	Martensville
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
McMorris, Hon. Don	SP	Indian Head-Milestone
Merriman, Paul	SP	Saskatoon Sutherland
Michelson, Warren	SP	Moose Jaw North
Moe, Hon. Scott	SP	Rosthern-Shellbrook
Morgan, Hon. Don	SP	Saskatoon Southeast
Nilson, John	NDP	Regina Lakeview
Norris, Rob	SP	Saskatoon Greystone
Ottenbreit, Hon. 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, Randy	SP	Biggar
Wilson, Hon. Nadine	SP	Saskatchewan Rivers
Wotherspoon, Trent	NDP	Regina Rosemont
Wyant, Hon. Gordon	SP	Saskatoon Northwest
Young, Colleen	SP	Lloydminster
Vacant		Prince Albert Carlton

[The Assembly met at 10:00.]

[Prayers]

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

Mr. Steinley: — With leave to make a statement.

The Speaker: — The member has requested leave to make a statement. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Apology for Remarks During Statements by Members

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was reviewing my member's statement last night; I wish to withdraw and apologize.

The Speaker: — I'd like to thank the member for his withdrawal and apology, and that will settle the matter on the point of order.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Mr. Broten: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members, two individuals who are seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, and that's Mr. Jesse Todd and Mr. Lee Todd. Jesse and Lee are brothers, and they're also both representatives with the Saskatchewan Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization.

Both have been tireless advocates for occupational health and safety issues in the province, especially around the area of asbestos. Members will recall the work around Howard's law and the work that Jesse, Lee, and as well as their mom, Brenda, did in passing and pushing for important legislation here in the House. So, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask all members to welcome these folks.

And on a related note, Mr. Speaker, I also want to point out that Jesse Todd is our candidate in the next election in the Saskatoon Eastview constituency. We're very proud to have him on the team, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite in welcoming Jesse Todd and his brother to the legislature today. I want to concur with the member opposite's comments about Jesse being a tireless advocate and recognize the good work that Howard Willems

had done with regard to asbestos, and I want to urge him to continue doing that. We have asked him to participate in our asbestos advisory committee, and in that regard I want to wish him every success. In the other endeavour that he's taking, not so much. In any event, Mr. Speaker, welcome them to their legislature today. Thank you.

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

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to introduce a few visitors that are seated in your gallery this morning. They represent organizations that make a vital contribution to the safety and well-being of Saskatchewan's citizens and families. As you may know, the province is committed to more than \$11 million this year for more than 40 community-based programs that offer support and care for victims of interpersonal violence and abuse.

These programs provide important services, ranging from public education about violence and abuse to putting a safe and secure roof over the heads of women and children who are fleeing violent relationships. These organizations offer support to people in their time of need.

With us today in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, Jo-Anne Dusel, the coordinator of the Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan. Can you give us a wave? Thanks. Tracy Knutson is the coordinator at Saskatchewan Towards Offering Partnership Solutions to Violence, and Dianna Graves is the executive director for the Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan. I thank them for all of the work that they do, Mr. Speaker, and I would like all members to join me in welcoming them to their legislature.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister in welcoming Jo-Anne Dusel, Tracy Knutson, and Dianna Graves to their legislature today. Thank you for all the work that you do, and to say thank you for all the work that you do in supporting women and families in dealing with some of the challenges around interpersonal violence, providing a safe shelter, but also preventing and supporting those going through that. So thank you for all the work that you do, and welcome to your legislature today.

And while I'm on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome, we have Arden Fiala here today with SaskFEAT [Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment]. Arden is a tireless advocate for individuals and families and communities in terms of providing supports, improving supports for those who are living with autism spectrum disorder. Today is World Autism Awareness Day, so welcome Arden to her legislature here today.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to join with the member opposite in welcoming Arden Fiala to her Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I've had the opportunity to

meet with Arden on a number of occasions even prior to today's flag-raising.

Mr. Speaker, Arden is president of SaskFEAT that does such great work in our province advocating on behalf of those that have been diagnosed on the autism spectrum, Mr. Speaker. As well as she's a Saskatchewan director and the vice-president of Autism Society Canada, Mr. Speaker.

She's a tireless advocate for those, including for her daughter who I had an opportunity to meet with a couple of months ago. And she's very, Arden's very proud of her daughter who has been accepted into Sask Polytechnic in Moose Jaw into an engineering program. Mr. Speaker, I know she's looking forward to that. And, Mr. Speaker, with that I would ask all members to join with me in welcoming Arden to her Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition calling for greater support for education here in Saskatchewan. And we know that education is one of the most vital services this government can provide to its citizens, but this government has failed to deliver a long-term plan and vision and necessary resources to prioritize the delivery of educational excellence. And this government has failed to develop a real plan to close the Aboriginal education gap and to support English as additional language students, support community schools, and their communities and students. And we know, Mr. Speaker, 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 that provides 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.

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

Mr. Speaker, the people signing this petition come from Moose Jaw and Estevan and other locations in the province. I do so present. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise once again today to present petitions on behalf of concerned citizens as it relates to the unsafe conditions created by that government on Dewdney Avenue and their failure to consider the safety of this residential artery and those families directly impacted, their failure to plan the safe movement of heavy-haul trucks through Regina, Mr. Speaker. 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 the 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 are signed once again by concerned residents of Regina. I so submit.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise again today to present a petition in support of safe staffing levels in long-term care. Mr. Speaker, the petitioners point out that many aspects of long-term care are deteriorating under this government. They talk about how the government has removed the regulations requiring a minimum standard of care for seniors, which has resulted in neglect; and that chronic understaffing in long-term care facilities results in unacceptable conditions, including unanswered calls for help, infrequent bathing, and a rise in physical violence amongst residents. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the government to commit to the creation of safe staffing levels for all valued members of the health care team and to reintroduce actual numbers of staff to match the level of care needs and the number of residents under their care in long-term care facilities.

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

Mr. Speaker, this petition is signed from citizens from Saskatoon. I so submit.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to rise to present a petition for real action on climate change. And the individuals who have signed this wish to bring to our attention the following: that Saskatchewan produces the highest greenhouse gas emissions per capita in all of Canada; slashing programs such as the Go Green Fund and the EnerGuide for Houses energy-efficiency program has set the province on a backwards course; since 2009 the Government of Saskatchewan reduced climate change funding by 83 per cent. In the prayer that reads as follows they:

Respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan enact a real plan and allocate appropriate funding in the provincial budget to tackle climate change

by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, helping families transition to energy-efficient homes, and encouraging everyone in the province to take real action to protect the environment.

Mr. Speaker, this is signed by individuals from Saskatoon and Assiniboia. I so submit.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

World Autism Awareness Day

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, April 2nd, we celebrate the eighth annual World Autism Awareness Day, which aims to shine a bright light on autism as a growing global health concern. Here in Saskatchewan I was pleased to be part of the autism awareness flag raising this morning at the legislature with the Health minister and members on both sides of the House.

As part of World Autism Awareness Day, there is a global campaign to unite people across the globe as they celebrate Light It Up Blue. This important initiative helps kick off a month of autism awareness as iconic landmarks and venues as well as homes and communities light their buildings blue. Maybe next year even our own legislature could be involved.

The goal of World Autism Awareness Day is to honour the millions of individuals and families around the world affected by autism and to share information about the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the unique talents and skills of persons with autism. Mr. Speaker, last month Saskatoon hosted renowned animal expert and autism advocate, Temple Grandin. She discussed both the challenges and the benefits of living with autism. She went on to say, "I am different, not less."

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing World Autism Awareness Day. We also need to express our gratitude to organizations that advocate for improved services for individuals living with autism spectrum disorder, their families, and their communities, and to those who provide those direct services and supports: SaskFEAT, Autism Resource Centre, Autism Services Saskatoon, SACL [Saskatchewan Association for Community Living], the SACL Family Network, and ECIP [early childhood intervention program], to name a few. Thank you.

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

Mr. Marchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to join stakeholders and advocates from around the world in formally recognizing today, April 2nd, as the eighth annual World Autism Awareness Day. To mark this day, we have raised the autism awareness flag in front of our Legislative Building.

Mr. Speaker, autism, more commonly understood as autism spectrum disorder or ASD, encompasses a wide array of disorders. ASD is often marked by challenges in

communication, delayed social interaction skills, difficulties in motor coordination, and other physical health issues.

This government is proud to provide funding to support enhanced autism interventions that help families as well as individuals affected. We are investing \$7.55 million annually towards targeted autism supports. Mr. Speaker, in the 2015-2016 budget, our government has also committed \$550,000 of annual funding for the Little Tots program in Saskatoon. Thanks to this funding, Little Tots, which started as a pilot project, will now become permanent and serve as a best practice example for providing specialized applied behavioural analysis programs to preschoolers.

On this very special day, Mr. Speaker, I want to remind my colleagues that we all have a responsibility to raise awareness, to provide support, and to be involved in addressing autism. I ask all members of the House to please join me in recognizing World Autism Awareness Day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Asbestos Awareness Week

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, April 1 to 7 is Asbestos Awareness Week, marked globally by the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization. This week is a time to raise awareness about asbestos-related diseases. Mr. Speaker, asbestos is the leading cause of workplace deaths in Canada and it is estimated that 152,000 workers in Canada are currently exposed to asbestos. These figures however only account for the number of accepted claims and don't include people who can't prove work-related exposure. The number of people who have been affected by asbestos is therefore likely much higher.

Mr. Speaker, we have a very special role here in the legislature, and it was incredibly encouraging to have members from both sides of the aisle co-operate on the creation of Howard's law, a mandatory registry of public buildings. Howard's law was brought forward on behalf of Howard Willems, a Saskatoon man who was lost to a rare form of cancer caused by inhaling asbestos fibres.

It's been now almost two years since Howard's law was passed in the Saskatchewan legislature. Significant progress has been made on the registry and we urge the government to complete the registry. When completed, this system would be the first of its kind in Canada. I call on all members to recognize this week as a time to raise awareness about asbestos-related diseases, to remember those lost, and to remain vigilant in the protection of Saskatchewan workers and families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[10:15]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Saskatchewan Rivers.

4-H Members Compete in Public Speaking Competition

Hon. Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In March, the 2015 North East Regional 4-H Public Speaking Competition was held at Wesmor School at Prince Albert. I had the honour of attending and serving as a judge at this event.

Public speaking is an important part of the 4-H club year. All 4-H members take part in 4-H public speaking. Mr. Speaker, the 4-H motto is “learn to do by doing,” and by taking part in public speaking 4-H members learn important communication skills which they will find invaluable in their future endeavours.

Individual 4-H clubs send members in various age divisions to district competitions where the best speakers earn the right to move on to regional competitions to compete for a spot in the provincial competition. This year’s Provincial 4-H Public Speaking Competition will be held in Swift Current on April 11th.

Representing the North East Region at the provincial competition will be Danika Prevost and Skyler Preston in the clover bud division, Jaxson Lindgren and Christina Posnikoff in the junior division, Ben Grassick and Kyle Kirzinger in the intermediate division, and Sara Grassick and Catherine Lang in the senior division.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in congratulating the speakers who competed, and I would like to wish the winners best of luck at the provincial competition. Thank you.

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

Legacy Award for Prince Albert Couple

Ms. Jurgens: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had a wonderful opportunity to present the 2014 Legacy Award at the Prince Albert Chamber of Commerce brunch on March 19th. The very deserving recipients of the 2014 award were Gene Kapacila and his wife, Doreen, for their business, Gene’s Sports Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, Gene has lived in Prince Albert for 61 years. He originally moved to the city in 1954 to work at the Imperial Bank of Commerce, where he met his now wife, Doreen. In 1973, Gene and his wife started Gene’s Sports Excellence, and it has continued to remain one of Prince Albert’s longest family-owned businesses. Gene noted that with few family-operated businesses still running in Prince Albert, loyal customers and community members keep returning to his store.

Mr. Speaker, the Prince Albert & District Chamber of Commerce CEO [chief executive officer], Merle Lacert, said that Gene and Doreen are an example of a couple that has made a commitment and dedication of services to the community of Prince Albert. He also noted that the couple’s vast experience as the owners and operators of the business for more than four decades was ultimately why they were chosen as this year’s recipient.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Gene and Doreen Kapacila on winning the 2014 Legacy Award. Thank you.

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

Funding for New Hepatitis Drugs

Mr. Tochor: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m pleased to

announce as of April 1st our government will provide coverage for two new life-saving drugs for hepatitis C patients. When these drug therapies, Harvoni and Sovaldi, are taken appropriately, they can cure over 90 per cent of the people treated in as little as 8 to 12 weeks time. Mr. Speaker, hepatitis C is a viral disease that affects the liver and about 1 per cent of our population is affected by it.

Mr. Speaker, we are pleased to cover these drugs that offer effective, simple, and fast treatment for Saskatchewan people with hepatitis C. These new medications provide an opportunity for patients to move from treatment to cure and can greatly improve the quality of life for those affected. Mr. Speaker, the Ministry of Health will list these two drugs on the Saskatchewan formulary as exceptional drug status benefits. About 1,100 qualified patients will access the coverage for the next three years.

Mr. Speaker, our government will continue our overall efforts to lower drug costs and to negotiate the best value for new therapies through a pan-Canadian process. Mr. Speaker, our government is committed to providing our residents with better access to new and effective medications, and this is another example how we’re putting patients first. We’ll continue our commitment to provide better health, better value, and better care to Saskatchewan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Moosomin.

Message of Easter

Mr. Toth: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is the Easter weekend and Christians around the world will be taking time to reflect on the message of Easter and how we can emulate that message in our own lives.

Tomorrow morning is Good Friday and in churches across our province, country, and around the world, people will gather to remember the suffering, torture, and death of Jesus Christ. While the Friday is seen as one of sorrow and despair, a new day is dawning. On Sunday morning, churches again will be filled. This time worshippers will feel joy and thanksgiving as they rejoice in the message given by the angel to the women who went to the tomb: “He is not here; he is risen.”

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Easter message can be summed up in the words to us by John in his Gospel, chapter 3, verse 16: “God so loved that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

The Easter message is a message of love, forgiveness, and hope. Mr. Speaker, the celebration of Easter could not come at a better time of the year. It is the spring season, and with spring we look forward to the awakening of new life.

To members of this Legislative Assembly, staff working in this building, and to the people of Saskatchewan: have a blessed Easter weekend as you gather with family and friends, and please drive safely.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Provision of Care and Staffing Levels in Long-Term Care Facilities

Mr. Broten: — Yesterday we learned that a senior with dementia died in a Moose Jaw care facility after eating Tide laundry detergent pods. In a bizarre explanation, a government official claims that this has nothing whatsoever to do with a lack of proper supervision for the senior. Does the Premier share that view or will he admit that the care aids are right, that short-staffing contributed to this awful premature death?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the absence of the Premier I'll answer on behalf of the government.

Mr. Speaker, a senior vice-president of Five Hills Health Region did publicly report on the findings of the investigation and the fact that the region has made an action plan to prevent a similar situation in the future. Mr. Speaker, at that time the official had indicated that after reviewing the incident and the investigation, Mr. Speaker, that no issue of neglect, no issue of a person being unsupervised or improperly supervised, none of those things are evident in this incident. Mr. Speaker, I think the region is able to speak more . . . further on what exactly the investigation did in fact find, Mr. Speaker. I take the region at face value in terms of, this was the result of the investigation that the . . . this was the findings in the investigation.

That being said, Mr. Speaker, this is a tragedy. This is a tragic situation and, Mr. Speaker, we will learn from the situation so that this doesn't happen to anybody else in our care.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the action plan is simply to limit the number of detergent pods that are given out. Mr. Speaker, I think people in the province will clearly see that that is a very weak response to such a tragedy.

Imagine a toddler, Mr. Speaker, a toddler in a licensed child care centre eating pods of laundry detergent and dying. Do you think that this government would try to argue that that has nothing to do with a lack of proper supervision? Absolutely not. So it's appalling, Mr. Speaker, that this government is trying to argue that a vulnerable senior with dementia in a care facility eating pods of laundry detergent and dying has nothing whatsoever to do with a lack of proper supervision and a lack of staff.

If there had been enough staff around to see the resident was wandering where it wasn't safe, they could have stopped him and prevented this tragic death. How can the Premier possibly dispute that?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Again, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Premier I'll take that question on behalf of the government. Mr. Speaker, I believe that Five Hills Health Region is taking this incident very seriously. They've done a thorough investigation, Mr. Speaker. They notified the family immediately upon this incident taking place, Mr. Speaker. They

followed all of the established protocols, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in this case, in this facility, there is laundry facilities in each room that are available to the residents. Mr. Speaker, I know that the region and the facility are going to take precautions to ensure that proper storage takes place, that there aren't an overabundance of these pods that would be available to somebody, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to be able to put on the record though that the Leader of the Opposition brought up his belief that it delivered a strategy of short-staffing by not filling shifts, yesterday in his questions. Mr. Speaker, in this case, in this facility in the last three months, a very small number of shifts went unfilled. The vast, vast majority, 99.5, 99.5 per cent of the shifts were filled by this facility, Mr. Speaker. But we'll continue to ensure that we have safe procedures and safe protocols in place in long-term care.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, I should hope that the family would be immediately notified. That's a bare minimum. But what also is a bare minimum, Mr. Speaker, is for a government to realize that its actions and its policies have created a crisis in seniors' care here in Saskatchewan. And we're hearing from nurses. We're hearing from care aids. We're hearing front-line providers who live the daily reality throughout the province. And these are not isolated incidents as this government likes to claim. This is actually the sixth senior we've heard of in the last several months that has died as a result of neglect in seniors' care because of short-staffing and the lack of minimum regulated care standards.

Margaret Warholm, Jessie Sellwood, Lorne Rowell, Fern Chingos, Irene Hohne, and now this gentleman in Moose Jaw, and we've heard many other stories that haven't been made public. Perhaps the government members aren't bothered by these stories, Mr. Speaker. I don't know, but they have to be. This is unbelievable and this is unacceptable, and it is heartbreaking to hear these stories, to think of these lives that have passed away, Mr. Speaker, so tragically. Does the Premier really think that these premature deaths in seniors' care had nothing to do with chronic short-staffing?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Speaker, obviously we require and rely on the health regions to do an investigation when an incident takes place. Mr. Speaker, that investigation has taken place. In this instance, Mr. Speaker, the region has acknowledged that it's a tragedy, but through their work in the investigation, they identified that it wasn't an issue of being unsupervised or improperly supervised or an issue of neglect, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I can say with all assurity that this side of the House, the members on this side of the House do not take these issues lightly. I certainly don't as Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, that is why this government, while not being perfect, Mr. Speaker, we have invested significant dollars in the last seven years, eight years now, to make enhancements to long-term care, to seniors' care, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we have done so on the capital side. We have done so on the support side. We have done so on the front-line side. We will be the first to admit and I will be the first to admit that more needs to be done, Mr. Speaker, but we take these very seriously and these types of incidents do guide our actions into the future, Mr. Speaker. So to the Leader of the Opposition, absolutely we take these seriously.

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

Mr. Broten: — But sadly, Mr. Speaker, and tragically for the seniors who are in care, they're not taking actions that are serious. They're not taking the steps to fix seniors' care that we see.

What's important, Mr. Speaker, are the number of workers on the shifts at a given time, Mr. Speaker, the number of people that are present that can actually provide the care that is needed. Again, if this was a toddler who had died in a licensed child care facility, there is no way, there is no way that this government would be arguing that proper supervision and proper staffing isn't a big part of the problem and a big part of the cause.

We keep hearing about cuts, Mr. Speaker, to staff on each shift. And we hear about policies that, Mr. Speaker, are bringing short-staffing, like not filling sick time. And we hear this from across the province.

In this year's budget, Mr. Speaker, there was only \$1 million for non-capital needs in seniors' care, yet at the same time we see misplaced priorities. We see that this Premier has spent \$3 million on an American lobbyist. What a mix-up. What a tragedy to be spending dollars there when we know about the needs on the front lines.

A vulnerable senior with dementia, he was not in a dementia unit. He wasn't properly supervised, because of short-staffing. He ate laundry detergent pods and he died, tragically. This is the sixth senior that we've heard of publicly that has died prematurely in care facilities because of short-staffing. How can the Premier keep saying that these are isolated incidents and have nothing to do with staffing levels, have nothing to do with the need for minimum regulated care standards?

[10:30]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Again, Mr. Speaker, the region did investigate this tragedy and reported back, Mr. Speaker, that they don't believe that the issues were related to neglect or being unsupervised or improperly supervised, Mr. Speaker. If the Leader of the Opposition has further information, I know the region would be very interested in that.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to what this government has done, this facility has the same number of residents that it did eight years ago when the NDP [New Democratic Party] were tossed out of office. But today what is different, Mr. Speaker, is that there is a 9 per cent increase in the number of staff at that same facility, Mr. Speaker.

So if the member opposite believes that there is short-staffing today in Saskatchewan long-term care, I wonder what he thought of when his own party was the government of the day when there were nearly 800 fewer front-line staff working in long-term care for the same number of residents, Mr. Speaker.

With respect to unfilled shifts, in this facility in the last three months there have been 8,365 shifts scheduled and 46 of those went unfilled, Mr. Speaker. That's point five per cent. The vast majority of shifts are filled. That is the policy of the region and the policy of this facility.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, here's what a registered nurse has told us who works at Providence:

The only change we have seen in the past few years is a four-hour LPN position added on the evening shift in long-term care. This was accomplished by pulling the LPN from the geriatric assessment unit, replacing her with a CCA pulled from Maguire Centre, leaving both units not staffed appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, these are the types of stories that come from the front lines. My question to the Premier: is this government suggesting that this nurse is not telling the truth?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again on behalf of . . . in the absence of the Premier, I'll answer on behalf of the government. Mr. Speaker, the budget for staffing in this facility and in fact increasing the number of people, front-line staff that actually work in the facility, is up 9 per cent over the term of this government, Mr. Speaker. In addition to that, the board added 100 hours of additional care, care aid staffing after 2007, and in 2011 they added 56 hours of nursing time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to what in fact has also been put on the record, Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify, the record of . . . the Leader of the Opposition said in this House yesterday that there was a threat that family resident council meetings would be cancelled, Mr. Speaker. That is not the case. The facility will not be losing their resident family council meetings. In fact it was this government that insisted that every single facility have one of those. The only issue that has been identified in the recent past, Mr. Speaker, was where employees should be smoking. But it was felt at the resident council meeting that that was more of an administration and management issue, and not something for the resident family council. So with respect to what the Leader of the Opposition brought up, I'm not sure what he's referring to for meetings being cancelled.

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

Funding for Education

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, a grade 4 student in our province has put up a poster in his school. He's selling

lemonade to raise money for his school. The poster says:

There are a bunch of budget cuts next year and there will be less money to do arts and crafts, big events, and we will likely have fewer educational associates. There will be other cuts that we don't know about yet.

So this fourth grader is selling lemonade because this government is letting him down and his fellow students down. What does the Education minister have to say to this fourth grader?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, there has been an increase in each and every year to the overall operating grant for school divisions, over 31 per cent since November 2007. Total funding for pre-K to 12 [pre-kindergarten to grade 12] education is now nearly \$2 billion. This funding is over and above our \$948 million record capital investment, and over and above the \$878 million in cumulative relief to education property tax.

Mr. Speaker, the total budget for Education has grown by 112 per cent since 2007. Mr. Speaker, in 2007, the budget was \$943 million, in 2014-2015, \$2 billion. Mr. Speaker, there's no cuts. There's no reductions. There's nothing taken away. And we'll continue to work with the education sector to provide the best possible education for our students.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, this Education minister can dismiss this fourth grader if he wants, and he can pretend that this lemonade sale isn't just another sign of this government's neglect of education, but perhaps he'll listen to what the Chair of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools says about this government's decision to slash the funding enrolment increases, a cut of \$15 million that are desperately needed. I quote, "But when we don't receive the resources we need for those extra students, it's a disservice to them and the future of our province."

Does the Education minister recognize that this government is doing a disservice to our students and the future of our province by cutting funding for enrolment increases, or does he stubbornly dismiss what educational leaders are saying as well?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, the co-leader can say whatever he wants from the other side of the House but, Mr. Speaker, this is a government that has never ever given a reduction in funding for school divisions. In fact, it has gone up in each and every year.

In 1993 and '94, the NDP actually reduced the operating grant from the province. In 1995, they gave school divisions zero per cent. This was at a time when there was 20,000 more students in our education system than there are today. Mr. Speaker, we're going to keep on funding education and we're going to keep on funding it in an increasing manner, as opposed to the members opposite that continued to close schools, give zeros, give negatives. We're not going in that direction. We're going

forward, not backwards.

The Speaker: — I would like to remind members to refer to other members by their constituency name or their titles, not by some other terminology. I recognize the member for Regina Rosemont.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, that minister can get up and provide whatever sort of nonsense and spin he wants, but this cut of \$15 million that supports enrolment growth doesn't make any sense in our province, Mr. Speaker. The Chair of the Saskatoon Public School Division says, "... we are concerned that provisions to address the ongoing pressures experienced due to year-over-year . . . increases have been removed in this budget."

With the kind of record revenues this government has had and the draining of the rainy day fund and the debt that it's been racking up, we should have some of the best schools in the country. But this government . . .

[Applause]

Mr. Wotherspoon: — They're applauding their own failures in education, Mr. Speaker.

But this government has wasted far too much on its misplaced priorities. Now we have educational leaders expressing major frustrations in a dire situation. And we have grade 4 students selling lemonade to try to blunt the impact of that government's cuts, that government's failures in classrooms. How can the Education minister possibly justify this?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Education.

Hon. Mr. Morgan: — Mr. Speaker, the member opposite talks about Saskatoon Catholic, four and a half per cent increase, more than enough to cover the costs of the collective bargaining agreement. Mr. Speaker, the same news release that the member opposite was quoting from, and I'll quote a little bit out of it: "We appreciate the province made education a priority in the budget and we welcome the overall increase in education funding." That doesn't sound like a negative number to me, Mr. Speaker. That is a quote from Saskatoon Board of Education Chair, Ray Morrison.

Then it says, it goes on to say, "The board chairs welcome statements from the Ministry of Education that funding enrolment growth will be a priority if money is available in mid-year." Go on further:

"Students are our top priority and we are committed to providing opportunities to all of our students," Morrison said. "We believe in working together with the Ministry of Education to ensure quality learning for all [of our] students . . . and address the challenges resulting from our growing city and school enrolment."

Mr. Speaker, we're going to continue doing that type of thing. We're not going to go ahead and cancel schools, close schools, and do the things that the members opposite did.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Besnard Lake Facility Evacuation

Mr. Vermette: — The Besnard Lake Correctional Camp was closed last year because of a kitchen fire, but the renovations were completed in the fall. The camp was to reopen yesterday, but this government is keeping it closed for at least another six months. To the minister: why?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Besnard Lake camp is a reduced custody adult male facility located 1.5 hours north of La Ronge. In June 2014 a fire occurred in the laundry room of the facility which of course forced the evacuation of the offenders and the staff. Repairs to Besnard have been completed and this facility will open in the fall of 2015.

The decision was taken to delay reopening to allow for officials to study Besnard and the programming as a part of a wider strategy of revitalizing our custody facilities across the province, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — The male inmates who should be at the Besnard Lake camp are now crammed into the gym of the Pine Grove women's centre. This is not helpful to prepare them for release and it is a safety issue and could be a matter of life and death. To the minister: how can she justify extending this for at least six more months?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Mr. Speaker, community safety is the number one priority for this ministry. In our custody facilities, Mr. Speaker, this means ensuring the safety and the security of the staff, offenders, and members of the public who may be visiting the centres. We are able to manage the significant counts with our current infrastructure, Mr. Speaker. The offenders that were in Besnard camp are being housed appropriately and effectively, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Whip.

Mr. Vermette: — Over and over again that minister has shown that she does not know her file, and she has had to change plans over and over because she did not do her homework. Will she admit that keeping Besnard Lake closed is a mistake and will she reverse that decision today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and Policing.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Provincial Budget and Public Debt

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This government doesn't want to talk about the piles and piles of

debt that it's been adding. The media asked the member for Prince Albert Northcote about the Sask Party increasing the debt by billions of dollars, and here's what she said, "... your question is increasing the debt. Now you're getting into details here." The paper printed that quote and then a Sask Party operative named Al Jurgens told the paper that this was an "ISIS style attack."

Mr. Speaker, that's way over the top and it's disgusting. To the Deputy Premier: does the Saskatchewan Party government really think that it should not have to answer basic questions about the debt going up under his and their watch?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Deputy Premier.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure the member opposite realizes that this is the second year of a summary financial budget. This is the second year that we've followed the recommendation of the Provincial Auditor. And, Mr. Speaker, I can point out that in the budget documents, very clearly on page 76, there is something called the schedule of public debt, Mr. Speaker, all of the debt that the province of Saskatchewan has, whether it's self-supported debt which is the debt of the Crown corporations, Mr. Speaker. Crown corporations debt has been increasing because infrastructure building needs to be continued, Mr. Speaker.

So as a result of that, Mr. Speaker, you can see on that page the complete list of public debt. You can also see, Mr. Speaker, that the debt that we inherited back in 2007, which is referred to as the operational debt, was \$6.8 billion and today, Mr. Speaker, it's \$3.8 billion.

[10:45]

The Speaker: — I recognize the member for Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, I know that the Finance minister's budget is absolutely indefensible. And it's shameful that the Saskatchewan Party is adding so much debt, Mr. Speaker. But government MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] should be able to answer basic questions about the debt going up under the Sask Party. Governments need to be held accountable for their actions. It's absolutely disgusting to say a journalist asking questions about debt and then posting a transcript, that this is an ISIS [The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria]-style attack.

To the Deputy Premier: does he agree that governments need to be accountable for their actions like increasing the debt? And does he agree that it's disgusting to compare journalism to terrorism?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Deputy Premier.

Hon. Mr. Krawetz: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my job as Minister of Finance and our job as government is to disclose to the people of Saskatchewan all of the numbers, all of the accounting, and that is why we have moved to a summary financial statement, Mr. Speaker. The budget is there. The budget is there for the member opposite to review.

I note, Mr. Speaker, that a lot of material is published in the Public Accounts documents. And it's interesting to note because the member opposite talks about, you know, the debt increase. And I want to point out to him that in the summary . . . the summaries have always been contained in the Public Accounts. Mr. Speaker, the last full year of the NDP, 2006-2007, the debt of the . . . the public debt of the province was \$11.035 billion, Mr. Speaker. \$11 billion.

I want him to recognize that, Mr. Speaker, because we have moved forward with construction in Crowns. We've moved forward with construction of 45 schools, as the Minister of Education announced, Mr. Speaker, over a period of time. And we're moving forward with 18 more schools. We're moving forward with replacing the North Battleford hospital, a facility that the NDP should have replaced 20 years ago.

TABLING OF COMMUNICATION

The Speaker: — Before orders of the day, I have received a letter from the Lieutenant Governor which states:

I hereby inform the Assembly of the membership of the Board of Internal Economy, effective March 25th, 2015:

Hon. Dan D'Autremont, Chair
 Hon. Kevin Doherty (executive council nominee)
 Hon. Jeremy Harrison (executive council nominee)
 Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff (government caucus nominee)
 Doreen Eagles, MLA (government caucus nominee)
 David Forbes, MLA (opposition caucus nominee)
 Warren McCall, MLA (opposition caucus nominee)

Yours sincerely,

Vaughn Solomon Schofield
 Lieutenant Governor
 Province of Saskatchewan

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to order the answers to questions 817 through 906.

The Speaker: — The Government Whip has ordered responses to questions 817 through 906.

SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

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

Federal Government Bill C-51 and Provincial Budget

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour and a pleasure to rise in the debate today, an important one as we've come to realize that we are, as Canadians, in a very challenging world that now tragically includes terrorism. And this is a significant shift and has been over a few years. But of course, no one in Canada can deny the tragic events of last October

with the deaths of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent and Corporal Nathan Cirillo.

It is clear though that there are many different paths forward as we tackle this issue and we look at how we can serve our communities, our country, and of course serve as role models in the world. Now the challenge for all Canadians and for our governments, and I include the Saskatchewan legislature and the Government of Saskatchewan, is how do we preserve the Saskatchewan and the Canada that we know and cherish and, at the same time, rise to the challenge of preserving safety for our communities. And this is no small thing because we know, we look to our past and we think about how Canada was perceived in the world as a leader when it came to human rights and a place that valued human rights and was the place that many people would seek to come to.

Now the federal Conservative Bill C-51 does not meet this test. This is why I and my colleagues on this side of the House — and I actually hope both sides of this House — will support my motion that we express grave concerns about the federal government's Bill C-51 because its terms unreasonably infringe upon the freedoms of Saskatchewan people and all Canadians, it lacks appropriate parliamentary oversight, and it undermines the integrity of our democracy. Now, Mr. Speaker, I will at the end of my remarks again read the full motion into the record and hand the motion in to the Clerks.

I, along with many Canadians, have been watching the recent activities in Ottawa regarding Bill C-51 with much apprehension. And you know, at first, Mr. Speaker, many Canadians, and it was shown by the polls, supported the bill because it's something that really many people are thinking a lot about these days, and so the polls were that people felt that we needed to do something.

But when the details in this omnibus bill — and I understand that there are some five different bills really bundled together — really became apparent, it was clear that it was not from the kind of Canada that we've come to love and cherish. And this is truly unfortunate that again the Harper government would tend to bundle these bills together as an omnibus bill. But we are left to wonder, is this bill fearmongering or worse? Is it about politicking for the next federal election? Clearly there are better paths forward to meet the public demand for security in our communities, our province, our country, and in fact the world.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about two stories that are really meaningful, and they speak to me about how wonderful Canada truly can be and how wonderful our province is when we are at our best. And the first is about a meeting that my colleague from Nutana and I attended on Remembrance Day long weekend at Station 20 West in 2012. It was a teach-in about another Harper omnibus bill. This one was Bill C-45, the navigational waters Act, but really it was much more than that and what was happening there.

But four amazing women from Saskatoon in this province organized this group, and then something, something very special happened. A special energy amongst the Aboriginal community and its allies morphed into Idle No More. And that winter was a very special winter as groups across Canada, in fact around the world, they danced, they met and protested and

engaged in civil disobedience and continue to do so, Mr. Speaker. But I wonder if that could happen today with Bill 51. I don't think so. The chill that this bill creates throughout the country is something that we should be, we should be challenging.

And the second story is one of Zarqa Nawaz, no stranger to this city or this building. In fact we know that Zarqa was here in December 4th, meeting with the government side. But I listened to her testimony on Bill 51 on March 26th, just last week. And she was talking about it, and she's an amazing storyteller. It was a very personal narrative about why she feels so strongly about being identified as a Canadian. She was in Paris and apparently a friend of hers asked her and found it really odd that she identified more as a Canadian than as a Muslim. And then she thought that was a strange question because it was just natural to her.

She was born and lived until five in the city of Liverpool in England, but the family came over here. Her dad actually helped build the CN Tower as an engineer, and then they moved out here. And talked about what really concerns her about Bill 51. She says it will tear at the fabric of what it means to be Canadian. And her story from being a child in Liverpool and coming to Canada is one that we all lived with because, except for the people here in this House who are indigenous, First Nations, the rest of us have come as immigrants. And she makes that point. She makes that point. It's a very important point, that we are all, except for the indigenous folks, really immigrants.

But she's deeply concerned about Islamic-phobic potential in the sentiments that are behind Bill C-51. Those are powerful unique experience about how our world can change, but could they under Bill 51? This is really, really the concern.

And you know, and as I said, in fact Zarqa was here, and many members of the Islam community came here on December 4th and, I understand, met with the government side. In fact we introduced them in the House. They were introduced in the House on December 4th. And then the news story in the *Leader-Post* talked about Muslims being proactive in crisis intervention and how they really feel strongly. The Muslims feel very strongly about this issue as well, as we all do. But there are, as I said, many paths to restoring security and safety in our communities. But Bill 51 really oversteps this, and I may go back and talk a little bit about this further on. But there are solutions, there are solutions, but Bill C-51 is not the one.

So we talk about the serious work in our communities regarding de-radicalization and strengthening mental health services for youth and young adults because what we've seen, especially in the situation in October, whether it's radicalization and the fact that the lone wolf attacks really speak to the need for mental health services. While there are many deficiencies in Bill C-51, and we know that there were last-minute amendments, but clearly it was too little, too late, and how they really didn't address the issue of oversight, didn't address the issue of privacy rights, and the general language around terrorism really is a cause for concern.

Mr. Speaker, we know that 45 out of 49 witnesses called for significant changes to this legislation, criticizing the lack of

parliamentary oversight for CSIS [Canadian Security Intelligence Service], lack of resources for addressing radicalization, the wide-ranging and dangerous provisions that criminalize the promotion of terrorism, when they've used the word generally.

And the people that have opposed Bill C-51 — and I know my colleagues on this side of the House will speak more specifically about this — but we know National Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Assembly of First Nations called for this bill to be thrown out. Former prime ministers Chrétien, Martin, Clark, and Turner also called for the bill to be turned out. The Canadian Bar Association, Roy Romanow, Ed Broadbent, Zarqa Nawaz, Amnesty International, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association, and the National Council of Canadian Muslims have all called for the end of Bill C-51.

And this is because they see real problems. They see real problems with this. And one includes the fact that, one, is that C-51 includes a clause that makes it an offence to promote terrorism in general. And such vague language has the potential to chill freedom of expression, and that really is a serious concern for Aboriginal activists, environmentalists, civil libertarians, and others that the government disagrees with, who may actually be labelled by the federal government as terrorists.

And so this is a real issue. And again, I've been reading the *Hansard* from Ottawa, and the whole discussion around oversight for CSIS versus review. The government will say that it actually has oversight, but actually it doesn't have oversight. It has review. And we know that the process now is actually flawed. In fact we know that former Premier Romanow's . . . [inaudible] . . . identified significant deficiencies in the current review process.

[11:00]

But there is a difference between oversight, ongoing oversight like there is in the UK [United Kingdom] or the US [United States]. We know they have a much rigorous process for oversight that involves the parliamentary offices. And this is not the case now, that the current review process is appointees from the Prime Minister and actually reviews issues after the fact. And this is a real, real problem.

So we have some real concerns, and we ask that the Sask Party really should stand up to the Conservatives and Liberals and oppose this bill because this does not make Canadians safer or does it reduce the threat of terrorism.

Now we know that we really want to do what we can to make our communities safer, and we really want to make sure that really what we want is legislation that is not designed to create fear and pit Canadians against each other. Instead of uniting all of Saskatchewan people, Muslims and non-Muslims, the Conservatives really in many ways have chosen to stoke fear and stereotypes about Muslims that divide people.

And we see this again, how this government is ramming through another piece of legislation. The federal government is ramming through Bill C-51 through parliament and then committee this week — I understand it may be in the Senate

today — without really proper debate. And you know, and as I've said, as Canadians become more and more aware of what C-51 actually does, we know the support for it is actually declining. We've seen that in recent polls and the letters and calls that we know that we've been getting.

I want to read a bit about what Romanow and Broadbent had said in their submission, and they say:

Terrorism is a threat throughout the world, including Canada. We cannot adopt a passive attitude toward it. We must invest in discovering terrorist threats and in stopping them. But national security also means defending our democracy, and that depends on holding the loyalty of citizens and maintaining their confidence in a just and stable government. This requires tolerance for diverse opinions, respect for personal integrity and timely and effective accountability for governmental conduct, including security operations. Shortchanging these will only weaken our strength as a nation — and our security.

Mr. Speaker, I think this quote says it all, really. We have to do something, and we are saying and nobody at the federal level is saying, stop; don't do anything. But people are putting forward reasonable solutions to this challenge that we have in Canada. We're all part of this global community and we must do something about terrorism, but this Bill C-51 actually goes too far and it changes the Canada that we have come to really appreciate.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a little bit about some of the things that have given us hope. You know, it's interesting. I just want to say that as we look around the world, clearly we are not an island to ourselves. And I just think about the Nigerian election that just happened this past weekend and what happened there where we saw . . . And everybody was wondering how that would happen in terms of they knew the election was going to be very close, the election in Nigeria was going to be very close.

And this is a quote from *The Globe and Mail*: "It was a historic moment, heralding a new era here. Mr. Jonathan became the first Nigerian leader . . . to accept democratic defeat . . ." This is very significant, Mr. Speaker. There are ways to respect the democratic processes and our rights that we hold near and dear.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read into the record the motion:

That this Assembly expresses grave concerns about the federal government's Bill C-51 because its terms unreasonably infringe upon the freedoms of Saskatchewan people and all Canadians, it lacks appropriate parliamentary oversight, and it undermines the integrity of our democracy.

I do so move. Thank you.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the member for Saskatoon Centre:

That this Assembly expresses grave concerns about the federal government's Bill C-51 because its terms

unreasonably infringe upon the freedoms of Saskatchewan people and all Canadians, it lacks appropriate parliamentary oversight, and it undermines the integrity of our democracy.

Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member for Melfort.

Mr. Phillips: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased and more than a little surprised in this debate this morning. I'm surprised that after two weeks, just after two weeks after the most important document that the province of Saskatchewan and the Government of Saskatchewan puts out, the provincial budget, here we are standing this morning, talking to a NDP motion about a federal piece of legislation. I suppose I'm to assume that there's nothing in the budget or estimates that the NDP could find fault with, so they had to go hunting like an Easter hunt all across the country to find something. Clearly our provincial NDP still do not have a plan and are now looking to their federal counterparts for a little inspiration. You know, in my mind that's a real injustice to their constituency but, Mr. Speaker, because it is the motion, as confusing as it is, I will speak to it.

Personally, and I want to emphasize personally, I want the laws governing terrorism in our country strengthened so that the security of our beloved Canada is increased. I want to watch the news in the evening and see that a terrorist is jailed before innocents are killed. I've had the opportunity in the last 24 hours to talk to some who work in security, some who sit on police commissions. They want either the amended C-51 that was changed yesterday or a bill that's very, very similar to it.

At one point, I was Chair of the police commission in Melfort. And I remember asking the constable, the fact that a lot of people in Melfort knew where the drug houses were, why didn't the police raid them? And the constable told me that there is so much background work that has to be done in order to make, get a search warrant, that by the time they get it, the people are gone. Another person that I talked to that I would call a security expert told me that often it would take up to 80 pages of information to get a search warrant of people they suspect to be drug dealers. There comes a point where we are protecting the wrong people.

Mr. Speaker, last October 22nd when terrorism struck in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Parliament Hill, our security was shaken from sea to sea to sea. And that day I looked at the Saskatchewan legislature, and in the legislature it was very unique that day. It was the Throne Speech. We had 51 representatives from various countries around the world in the gallery that day. We had leaders of the municipal governments from right across the province. We had judges from our judicial system, ceremonial guard, business and labour leaders, and the Saskatchewan members of the Legislative Assembly and our families. And I wondered what a target that would be.

In talking to people involved in security, both within these walls and outside, they feel that more has to be done. What we as Canadians face today is different than we have ever faced in the past, so I think that our tactics and our techniques have to change and be better.

Terrorism does exist in Canada even if the leaders of some parties have trouble getting that word out of their mouth. But just six weeks ago, there was a threat made for the West Edmonton Mall and I was, like all Canadians, a little horrified that a threat would be made. But I was maybe a little concerned, more than most, because the Melfort cheerleading team was going to the West Edmonton Mall to compete. And I'm very, very proud that they showed leadership in going to the West Edmonton Mall even after that threat was made. Yes, there was a concern, but as Canadians we can't hide from it. We must stay strong and that leadership was shown by that cheer team. And for interest's sake and to put it on the record, out of 150 teams there, Melfort placed fourth. So . . . yes.

So on the topic of security, I think about airport security. And I think that, oh two months ago I was in a busy airport and I had to stand in line for an hour and a half to go through security, and I hated it. However, that shouldn't be taken as a complaint, just a fact. I believe when I get on an airplane, I know myself, I know April, that we're not going to do any damage. It's the other 137 people beside me that I want checked out. And I'm okay in having to wait for an hour and a half just to know that I'm safe when I get there.

But, Mr. Speaker, we can't talk about terrorism without talking about ISIL [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant]. I wonder if the members opposite agree with their federal counterparts in opposing a military intervention. Seems to me when there's an organization that burns people alive while they're locked in cages, an organization that kills thousands, an organization that beheads hundreds, that rapes innocent women and children, and kills the children, do we have to do more than buy them lunch and a blanket if they survive? I think we do. Some would say that because we are there militarily, we started the war. That's just plain ridiculous, to suggest that ISIL would form a country or caliphate, kill everybody within that country that doesn't agree with their particular brand of religion, collect wealth and military strength, and then sit back and leave the Western world alone, because hating us and our culture is what they're made of.

I believe the federal NDP has some remnants, because it's election year, has some remnants of a policy on something, on anything, unlike the NDP in this province. But honestly, is their plan to feed the refugees and everything else will work out in the end? Is that their plan? Because yesterday ISIL attacked a refugee camp, took over 50 per cent of it. I wonder if they're worried today about the sandwich or if they would like some defence.

In trying to figure out why a motion from the Parliament of Canada would be so important to the Saskatchewan NDP, let alone the member from Saskatoon Centre, a constituent asked me if maybe the provincial NDP was campaigning for Thomas Mulcair, as the federal NDP was not allowed to open a constituency office paid for by taxpayers in the province of Saskatchewan where they have no members. Huh. Is the official opposition in the province of Saskatchewan going to be the Saskatchewan mouthpiece for the federal NDP? Are the members from across the aisle going to run the federal NDP campaign from within these walls? Can we look forward to such intelligent motions in the days and months ahead?

You know, and then I got thinking, what else could they be talking about? Our Finance minister introduced a budget just two weeks ago. Not a single . . . There were two questions — stand corrected — two questions today on the budget for the first time. Could they not talk about their plans for a better Saskatchewan? After eight years of sitting in opposition, they must have plans for a better Saskatchewan. We haven't seen them — not a plan, not a program, not a platform, nothing. The last platform they had was four years ago, the tree book written by the Official Opposition Leader. Since then, nothing, so maybe our plans are the right plans.

[11:15]

So in this legislature let's talk about Saskatchewan. Let's talk about how we continue to make this province better, Mr. Speaker. And let's not follow the members opposite down the rabbit hole and forget about the people that put us in these seats. Mr. Speaker, I will not be voting in favour of this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition House Leader.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. And I am glad to join debate today on this important resolution and glad to follow the lead of our member from Saskatoon Centre who has brought this motion forward. And I guess what I'd like to say is, off the top, Mr. Speaker, certainly I'm a legislator in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly but I'm also a Canadian. And in terms of being from Saskatchewan and being a Canadian, we have a long, proud history in this province of Saskatchewan: citizens that recognize the contribution that they could make in terms of human rights and freedoms, and from both sides of the political aisle throughout the history of this province, Mr. Speaker.

I think of the 1947 Saskatchewan Bill of Rights that was brought in by the CCF [Co-operative Commonwealth Federation] government then headed by Tommy Douglas. I think about the role that Frank Scott, the long-time dean of law at McGill law school, the role that that individual played in that particular document. I think about the 1960 Canadian Bill of Rights being brought into effect by John G. Diefenbaker, Mr. Speaker, a Progressive Conservative politician of some renown in this province and then prime minister of the country.

I think about the Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982 in which then premier, Allan Blakeney, and then attorney general, Roy Romanow, played a definite role in the patriation of the Canadian constitution but also in the establishment of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

And you know, those are just the highlights, Mr. Speaker, but there have been many passes where Saskatchewan people have stood up and spoke about what it means to be a Canadian and how that should be reflected in our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, how that should be enshrined in law not just at the provincial level, Mr. Speaker, but on the federal level as well.

And given that background, it's no surprise that we've seen Saskatchewan people again coming to the fore in terms of the commentary that's been provided around the shortcomings of Bill C-51. And again, Mr. Speaker, I always . . . For

governments that would come forward with the proposition that they're there to defend your rights and your freedoms by taking them away or by curtailing them, Mr. Speaker, that bears examination. That bears commentary.

And when we see the federal Conservatives, Stephen Harper government coming forward with Bill C-51, what do the people that know constitutional law, what do people that know security matters, what do they have to say about this piece of legislation? And again in that context, Mr. Speaker, what do Saskatchewan people have to say about that legislation?

And in recent days we've seen — which I'd like to quote at length because it certainly deserves it — we've seen a letter that, a public letter that was brought forward over the names of Ed Broadbent and Roy Romanow, again two individuals that have given much of their lives to the welfare of Saskatchewan and Canada. But two individuals that know what they're talking about when it comes, not just to matters of constitution or to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but as well as regards the Canadian security intelligence system, Mr. Speaker, or what happens with CSIS.

So I'd like to quote at length from the letter entitled, Parliament must reject the anti-terror bill, Ed Broadbent and Roy Romanow:

We are writing to add our voices to the rising chorus of opposition to Bill C-51, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's draft legislation extending the powers of Canada's intelligence agency.

This bill should be withdrawn, or defeated in Parliament.

Terrorism is designed to provoke governments into making damaging mistakes. It is conducted through brutality and rooted in the belief that killing ordinary citizens will cause nations to abandon their most basic commitments.

Terrorism demands a sustained and effective response. Resources must be allocated to enable police and intelligence agencies to find its perpetrators and to discover potential terrorists. Those who are guilty of offences must then be brought to justice.

Canada already has the mechanisms, practices and laws necessary for dealing with terrorism. These include surveillance, immigration controls, preventative detention and incarceration for criminal activity.

As we have recently seen, our system of national security is not perfect. But this is not due to the inadequacies in our security legislation. It is the result of overworked and underfunded police and security services.

The Harper government has been effective in piling up our security anxieties. But actual material and strategic support for pursuing security needs have not been this government's priority.

Instead of a considered statement in Parliament and a new and better plan, the Prime Minister spoke at what can only

be described as a political rally to announce new threats to the rights and liberties of Canadians.

The government subsequently presented us with Bill C-51, an intemperate terrorism bill that will remove reasonable restraints on Canadian security authorities but give them no new resources or strategies to more effectively do their real work.

The bill attacks the civil rights of all Canadians, and places the protections guaranteed by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms under the shadow of wider powers to interfere with lawful and legitimate conduct.

The general tenor of the bill is to expand the definition of threats to national security and add to the powers of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

Any interference with financial or economic stability could now be considered to violate national security. Such activities are a daily occurrence and in truth could include just about anything.

Other new national security offences include influencing any government in Canada by unlawful means or "interfering with infrastructure." Neither of these is a rare practice. Neither is necessarily connected to terrorism.

And now persons can be held in custody as a preventative matter if officers believe that a terrorist activity "may" occur. This makes detention a matter for the purely subjective views of security officials.

CSIS has now been given powers to engage in the active disruption of activities that it believes threaten the security of Canada, a power that was once illegally exercised by the RCMP and which led to the creation of CSIS with the mandate to focus exclusively on intelligence gathering — not to engage in activities that would otherwise be illegal. As the recent unfortunate history of intelligence agencies in the United States and Britain shows, we should be wary of this expanded mandate for our country's intelligence arm.

The exercise of security powers must be made subject to review by an open, publicly observed review process. The work of the current oversight agency, the Security Intelligence Review Committee, while valuable when properly staffed, takes place below the radar of public knowledge. The new bill is defective in not establishing a public process for assessing whether the exercise of these powers respects the entrenched rights of Canadians and is safe for Canadians.

Terrorism is a threat throughout the world, including Canada. We cannot adopt a passive attitude towards. We must invest in discovering terrorist threats and in stopping them. But national security also means defending our democracy, and that depends on holding the loyalty of citizens and maintaining their confidence in a just and stable government. This requires tolerance for its diverse opinions, respect for personal integrity and timely and effective accountability for governmental conduct,

including security operations. Shortchanging these will only weaken our strength as a nation — and our security.

The Prime Minister should withdraw this bill. If it is not withdrawn, Parliament should vote it down. Possibly, then, a more limited and focused statute would be worth debating.

Security agencies may feel that their present powers constrain their ability to protect Canada. But let us have an open discussion of this claim within Parliament and its committees before rushing to impose politically motivated “solutions.” Our rights as citizens are at stake.

And that concludes the letter, Mr. Speaker. Again it's words that are worth heeding and words that come forward from two individuals that have literally lifetimes of work in terms of the constitutional and legal framework that we enjoy so well here in Canada, the rights and freedoms that are so hard won.

You know, certainly my colleague had referenced the great words of Zarqa Nawaz. I think of the work being done by Assembly of First Nations Chief Perry Bellegarde saying that the whole bill should be gone. I think these are Canadians that are from Saskatchewan that we would do well to listen to in this debate, Mr. Speaker, and that the federal government should listen up as well. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ross: — Well thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to stand up and speak against this motion. I think the timing . . . it's ill-timed in that respect. This Bill C-51 has been sent back for revision, so for us to be even standing here and debating what hasn't been released doesn't make any sense. So because of that I think what we should be focusing in on is, let's talk about things that are real, things that are happening today here in our province.

You know, this is the first private members' day after the budget, and this would have been the perfect, the perfect opportunity for the members opposite to stand and talk about maybe some of the issues they didn't disagree. Somehow that doesn't happen. In fact they bring forward a motion that is probably ill-founded, in that it's gone back for revision, and we would like to be able to see it before we debate it.

So I would like to talk about some of the positive things that are happening in this province. We had a budget that was brought down. It is a balanced budget. It's a budget that has no tax increases, but it also has incentives within it that in fact the members, especially the members from Regina, should be interested in. I know that they're, you know, standing up and speaking to this budget today. Now if they want to speak about the federal bills, maybe they should seek a federal nomination and then run and become an MP [Member of Parliament]. But right here in this House, people have elected us to bring forward and talk about legislation that is relevant and pertinent to them today. So in fact, that's why I think it's really important we should be talking about the economy. That's what each and every person is talking to me about. They're talking to me about jobs.

You know, this past week I had the opportunity, along with the Premier and members from Regina Dewdney and Regina Walsh Acres and the Minister of the Economy, to be at Evraz. And Evraz made an announcement that makes it the largest single investment, of around \$200 million here in their facility in Regina. Now what does that mean? That means jobs, but it also means that there's a secure aspect to this for that steel mill because Evraz was at a point where they had to make a decision whether they were going to continue the way they were or whether they were going to . . . They had to make a decision on what options they had for them. So they have now decided to increase and ramp up what they're doing at Evraz place.

So in fact there's going to be 40 new jobs that are going to be the result of this kind of investment. And during the construction, there's going to be 1,100 more new jobs that are going to be undertaken during construction. So, Mr. Speaker, this is what the people in my constituency want to talk about. Yes, they're very concerned about security but, Mr. Speaker, they want job security. That's what they want to talk about.

They want to know that in fact their children are going to be able to continue going to a good school. And guess what? Mr. Speaker, in my constituency, we're going to be building a new school. We're going to be building one of the new joint schools, and in that school there's also going to be 90 new child care spaces. Now I know this past week, the members of the opposition, boy, during question period, they were just about setting their hair on fire. But were they asking real good questions? No. They were ramping it up, torquing it up, but in fact asking questions of the government that in fact each and every one of us would like to have been able to share about the budget. But that didn't happen, in fact. So I think it's really important that as members it's incumbent on us to now talk about what people in Saskatchewan want to hear.

[11:30]

They want to hear that there are no new tax increases because, Mr. Speaker, each and every person in Saskatchewan wants to be able to know that they have elected a government that is fiscally responsible, that we're prudent so that the money they do pay in taxes is being spent to the best way possible.

So we know that this was a tough budget, and we had to control spending. But we made sure that in fact the decisions that were being made were going to ensure that we were going to keep Saskatchewan strong. So the decisions to ensure that continued spending in infrastructure, well that is what people expect from this government. They want to make sure that we are looking at job creation.

This announcement at Evraz, that's job creation. That's ensuring that one of the largest employers in this province is going to stay here, is going to produce product. I mean the members opposite had a buy Saskatchewan day. Well this is a good Saskatchewan story because what are they producing? They're producing steel here in Saskatchewan. And then we have the member, the critic opposite who talks about the environment. Well guess what? The steel that is being produced here is from recycled products, so this is hitting it on every high point.

Why are they not talking about things like this? They should be talking about what is happening in this province, the good things that are happening in this province. But no, they want to talk about a bill that in fact isn't even being discussed until it comes back from being revised . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . They are. A member on this side said, "I think they're a little out of touch."

They are out of touch because one of the things we had was a balanced budget with no new taxes. And you know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I go and talk to the constituents in Regina Qu'Appelle Valley, they say to me, keep up the good work. Keep making sure that Saskatchewan keeps moving forward. We want a strong economy. Yes, we want to feel safe in our communities, and we're ensuring that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a time when we should be talking about the economy. This is a time when the members opposite should be asking relevant questions. This is a time when they should be bringing forward a motion for debate that is happening here right now, talking about the budget, talking about the economy. But you know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, because they have no plan it's pretty difficult for them to come up with their own motion. They're just kind of parroting what . . . Well they're kind of joined at the hip with the federal NDP under Mulcair, you know. And talk about a sinking ship over there — both sides, be it provincially or federally.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have a strong economy here. We have a province that continues to move forward. We are investing in our people. We are investing in our infrastructure. We're investing in good jobs right here in the province, unlike the opposition. They have no plan. They bring forward a bill that in fact is under revision so why they even brought it forward . . . They had every ample opportunity to make a change, bring forward something that's relevant today. Did they? Absolutely not.

They ended up bringing . . . You know, do they even know what this bill is about? I'm not sure. Because you know what it really is about? It's coordinating information between departments. That's what it's about. Meanwhile they're kind of setting their hair on fire, getting everybody all ramped up, thinking there's going to be guns in the streets and police on the streets and things like that. That's absolutely not what this bill is about. This bill is about ensuring that people in Canada are going to be safe and secure.

But you know what? It's ill timed for them to be bringing forward this motion. I cannot support this motion because it's gone back for revision. They don't even know what they're bringing forward in that case, Mr. Deputy Speaker, because this is a motion that is ill founded at this point in time. We do not have all the relevant information. They should go back to the drawing board, put together a plan for people in Saskatchewan, and then bring forward questions and debates based on that, not on some scare tactics that their federal leader has kind of handed down to them and expect us to all turn around and say, this is a good motion. Absolutely not, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I could never support something like this.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I stand in proud support of the motion being presented by my colleague from Saskatoon Centre. And, Mr. Speaker, for the record I wanted to read the motion once again so the Saskatchewan Party government can finally find their courage to stand up to the federal Conservatives and say that these are Saskatchewan people's rights that are being trampled upon. This is the security for all of the nation. Nobody is arguing those points, Mr. Speaker, but these are Saskatchewan people's interest that we must maintain as a provincial government and which the Sask Party is not prepared to do, Mr. Speaker. And the motion today simply reads this, Mr. Speaker. I think it speaks volumes of what we're trying to do here. And the motion reads:

That this Assembly express grave concerns about the federal government's Bill C-51 because its terms unreasonably infringe upon the freedoms of Saskatchewan people and all Canadians, it lacks appropriate parliamentary oversight, and it undermines the integrity of our democracy.

It's really important for people to know that yes, overall the people of Saskatchewan and people and the Canadians generally want to see freedom and not fear when we talk about making sure that the country as a whole is viewed throughout the world as a country that are consisting of peaceful people, assertive people, productive people, Mr. Speaker.

And what you see happening here is the federal government simply politicizing the process. And this is why I go back in my earlier statement where we're seeing evidence that these guys are simply pushing the whole notion of fear versus freedom. That's one of the quotes, Mr. Speaker, from parliament, in the sense that many people have grave concerns about why Bill C-51 simply is not going to do what it's intended to do.

I stand here today, Mr. Speaker, as I've mentioned time and time again, I'm very proud of the military service of many of my family members. And I shared stories of how my father who was a World War II vet would sit around with us as young boys and explain to them, explain to us exactly what was involved with some of his travels and some of his experiences as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces.

And he spoke about the many people that died on many of the beaches, and spoke fondly about his sergeant, of how he really respected and admired his sergeant. And when he went back, Mr. Speaker, on a tour of Normandy, I think he went to find the grave of the sergeant who perished during those battles.

And he was a very proud man, my father was, and he was very, very strong, but this guy had his hero. And you know how as you grow up and you're a young man, your father is your hero; well he was my hero. And then when I found out who his hero was, and the fact that he searched for this individual's grave and paid a lot of respect to his sergeant, and prayed for him, Mr. Speaker, it really, really, it really shows the amount of incredible sacrifice and commitment that these men and women had for each other in defending Canada overall when it came to World War II.

Now many of my family members, as a result of some of the pride we see and the courage that my father had and certainly the admiration that many people in the community had towards him and all the other veterans, it was something that would really instill the sense of confidence in us but also made us realize that we in Ile-a-la-Crosse, in Canada, in Saskatchewan owe a great debt to the many veterans and people that serve today and the veterans of many world wars that have happened time and time again.

And, Mr. Speaker, one of the things that my father spoke about — and as a result of that, many of my family members joined the military — he spoke about the whole notion of democracy and making sure that we enjoyed and appreciated the freedom that many of his colleagues, including his sergeant, paid for for us so we can enjoy the freedoms and the opportunities to have a good country, to live in a good country, and to appreciate the good country like Canada and like the province of Saskatchewan.

And that's why this Bill C-51, Mr. Speaker . . . It really irked me one day when I was watching, when I was looking through some national newspapers when I saw a picture, somebody drew a picture of Prime Minister Harper holding his hands up in the air with a masked terrorist, and the caption underneath that picture — as both of them are rising, holding hands and rising, or holding each other's hands up in the air, the Prime Minister and this masked terrorist — and the caption underneath read "running mates." That's what the caption read.

And I think the national paper that ran that cartoon really depicted exactly what this is about. It is not about defending the freedom, and it's not about appreciating veterans and people that served in the military, Mr. Speaker. It is all crass politics. And that's the shameful act on behalf of Canadians that the Prime Minister has undertaken as well as the Conservative government.

And it really irks me, Mr. Speaker, when I see the Saskatchewan Party government sitting in their chairs, not speaking up for what I think many families and many veterans and many people that paid a sacrifice that was intended to do, is to respect the democracy that was handed to us and to enjoy the freedom that came on the backs and the lives of so many men and women over time, Mr. Speaker . . . That's not why my father served the country, to have somebody politicize the process that we see under Bill C-51, Mr. Speaker. Not in the least bit did any of them ever talk to me about saying, this is important that we politicize the process, Mr. Speaker.

And that's why, when Saskatchewan people's interest, when Saskatchewan people's liberties and freedoms are being threatened by a federal government that is simply politicizing the process, politicizing the process, Mr. Speaker, and pushing fear as opposed to freedom, this is fundamentally the wrong thing to do, Mr. Speaker. It is fundamentally the wrong thing to do, Mr. Speaker.

And when you look at some of the evidence that we see, some of the evidence in how the federal government has not afforded many of the veterans that need critical help, I think it's over \$1 billion a year that the Department of Defence sent back that was earmarked to support many of our veterans and many people

that served in the military, Mr. Speaker. The federal government didn't afford them those supports and instead saved on the backs of many of our veterans and people that served in the military that had many challenges after their service, Mr. Speaker. So when you see that kind of process unfolding, when you see this kind of the visual that many Canadians see of this federal government really not doing a service to the people that served the country, Mr. Speaker, I begin to really get angry and it really offends me when you see some of these processes undertaken.

And all we see the Sask Party do, Mr. Speaker, when the rights and privileges and freedoms afforded to the Saskatchewan people are infringed upon, we see the Saskatchewan Party government talking nonsense, Mr. Speaker. They should be standing up for the people of Saskatchewan and they should be defending the notion of democracy and ensuring that the federal government does what they're supposed to do, Mr. Speaker, and that is to promote a peaceful yet functioning Canada, which I don't think will occur under this particular bill.

Now many people have indicated time and time again, many scholars and many legal people and many Aboriginal people where they've spoken about the intent of the bill, nobody is arguing that we shouldn't defend Canada. Nobody's arguing that at all. But the most important thing is they're saying we should trust the process but give the opportunity to be verified. Trust but verify are some of the phrases that I've picked up from some of the discussions and some of the comments made by many people involved with this bill. Trust but verify, and we don't see any evidence that this is going to be verified by a good, solid process.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the First Nations also spoke. I think Chief Perry Bellegarde spoke about the effort that they're going to undertake as First Nations people to go through the courts because the courts are separate from the politics and parliament, Mr. Speaker. And we urge the integrity of the courts to strike down this law because it's unconstitutional, it is unnecessary, Mr. Speaker, and it is undeserving of the many sacrifices made by men and women throughout the years that have served their military and served our country with distinction. And all we're getting from the Saskatchewan Party government is their effort to try and change the channel and not deal with the issue at hand, Mr. Speaker.

Terrorism is something that we do not support. Terrorism is something that we should not tolerate, Mr. Speaker. Terrorism is not something that we should accept as a people. Nobody is saying anything of that sort on this side of the Assembly. But what we should not accept is to use the Canadian military service as a political pawn in this larger game, Mr. Speaker. It is shameful for the federal government to do this, Mr. Speaker, and it is especially shameful that they're not giving any opportunity for people to participate in a very well-thought-out plan on how we respond to the threat of terrorism without breaking Canada's freedom.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, the message from the NDP, it is about freedom; it is not about fear. And it really shames me today to see our federal government playing on the politics of terrorism on the backs of many people that serve our country.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Arm River-Watrous.

Mr. Brkich: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to join in this debate, a debate that I believe is more of a federal issue, and I can understand possibly why they're bringing it forward. Let's face it. Tom Mulcair is starting to run their party. They've been in trouble federally in this province; they haven't elected a member. And when they come up with motions like this and what they're doing in Ottawa, they're probably not going to. And I can tell the members opposite that if they keep following what Thomas Mulcair is telling them, they're not going to elect any members over on that side.

At least a previous leader, Dwain Lingenfelter, I think at least he stood up a little bit against the federal — I'll call them what they call each other — brothers and sisters. He used to stand up a little bit. Their leader right now and the members there, don't. They take their marching orders from Thomas Mulcair because, you know, why we're discussing a strictly federal bill . . . We just passed a budget, you know, and it's a good budget and apparently they don't . . . They must think so, because they don't want to even discuss it on private members' day.

You know, and I'll touch on some of the highlights of this budget as we move forward, you know. It's a balanced budget. It's something that the constituents have always asked for. It's no tax increases. That's one of the biggest things. They say, always look internally. Every constituent says, you know, look to yourselves first, which this government has. You know, where the NDP, it was the first thing when they ran a little bit of trouble, always increase taxes.

Infrastructure. We're doing \$8 billion in infrastructure since we formed government, more than double the investment of the NDP over the same period; \$1.3 billion for core infrastructure in 2015 and '16, largest infrastructure investment in Saskatchewan history and a 50 per cent increase over last year; 248.5 million for K to 12 schools, up 150 million; 157 million investment for initial construction costs for nine joint-use schools in Warman, Martensville, Saskatoon, and Regina.

The members opposite constantly get up and say the education system is crumbling. Well we're trying to fix what they left us. This is how we're dealing with it, and I don't hear them ever saying one good thing about the nine schools that we're building. You'd think one of them would say, you know what? That's a step in the right direction. You know, we do need schools. And I'll admit maybe they ran some tough budgets. They had some tough years, but near the end they could have looked at it or they could have said, okay, now at least you're trying to do something out there. Not one word on that. Not one word on that.

And I'll tell you what, when you go door to door — and I've gone in this city; I've gone in rural Saskatchewan door knocking — you know, they'll mention that. They'll say, you know what? I have yet to hear a plan from the NDP, not one . . . what they would do, just always complaining.

Well I'll tell you what, if you're going to run in the next election, I'll give you some advice. I'll give some advice to the members opposite. You better come up with a plan. You better

not just go to Thomas Mulcair and let him write your plan because you will end up in more trouble than you did when Lingenfelter ran, wrote your plan. The Leader of the Opposition helped Lingenfelter write his plan. He signed off on that. Now either — you've got two options — either you're either waiting for Lingenfelter to come back and help you, or you're letting Tom Mulcair write that plan. I'm not sure which, but I'm telling you something right now, Mr. Speaker. You better, the members opposite better start coming up with a plan.

You know, as we go: 211 million to start construction on the Regina bypass, 19 million to start construction on twinning Highway 7 from Saskatoon to Delisle, 14.7 million continued construction investment on the Estevan truck route, 23 million to continue twinning Highway 16 from Saskatoon to Clavet, 74.5 million for municipal infrastructure. The plan's to invest more than 400 million over the next four years.

Two billion for Crown infrastructure; 5.5 billion in total spending for health care; 157 million for the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, up almost 100 per cent, almost up 100 per cent since 2008 — those are the issues that the people of Saskatchewan are worried about. Those are what they feel we should be debating in this House, not some federal issues.

I'll tell you what, when you go door to door, I never got a lot of . . . on this bill. You know, I got what we're doing and what needs to be done in the future, and to keep working. And that's what we've been doing as we move forward, coming up with a plan. Education, 3.7 billion in total spending for education including 53 million extra for child care spaces . . . or 53 million total, an increase of 2.2 million.

You know, if the members opposite want to talk about fighting terrorism, we're happy to do that. You know, we fully support the mission to fight ISIS, one of the most brutal regimes. If they ever got to be in power . . . to think what would happen if they ever got control of a country. And you know what? The dealing with that mission is just . . . The Middle East and the partners are just asking help from Canada just to be part of that coalition to try to stop that, to try to stop what's been happening in the Middle East and in Nigeria where they're kidnapping, raping, killing.

These are terrorists that aren't in it for the religious reasons. They're not in it for political reasons. They're just wanting to take over a country and run one of the most brutal regimes we would've ever seen. It would be more brutal than any regime we've ever had in history if they ever got control of a country.

And all they're asking us is to be part of a coalition to extend air strikes to try to destabilize them as they're moving forward into Syria, into Iraq, and also now into Nigeria and places. If we don't stop them, if we don't try to help them countries, I don't know how you can look them in the face, people down in the face years from now when there's possibly millions killed there if we don't try to stop it.

Their federal counterpart voted against that, and I can't understand that. I'll tell you what, when I take that door to door, I've had NDP members ashamed, literally ashamed of that, and that's going come back to haunt you. And it'll also come back to haunt the provincial party at that end, you know, as we move

forward.

You know, even this bill, the one we're debating, one of the most important things in it is the transfer of information between federal agencies, and that needs to be done. Agencies can't operate in silos, whether it's the police, whether it's CSIS, or whether it's the border security. Sharing of information of known terrorists, that's what the main concern of this bill is. That's the main concern of it.

How can we stop the events that have happened in the past? You look at what happened in Ottawa. I'm not saying that this bill would've stopped it, but we have to address that.

This is the reality that we're living in in this country right now. There is going to be homegrown terrorism. There is going to be terrorists from other countries that are going to target us. You can mention about the malls, the Edmonton west was actually mentioned. They are looking at attacking Canada. They've mentioned it. They are talking about that, of doing raids here. And there is, whether we like it or not, and it shames me to know that there is homegrown terrorists wanting to, you know, kill people in this country.

The sharing of information, if that helps, about known terrorists back and forth, I think we need to do whatever we can to try to control that. I think we need to work towards that.

And I'm not sure. I'm pretty sure that federally, you know, they're just trying to grandstand on this. The security of this great country should be what we're worried about.

There's amendments to the bill. There's been issues raised, and I think the federal are going to adjust them. You know, they have been to certain amendments. But the main thrust of this bill, the main thrust of it is to save people's lives, and I think that's the most important thing that we should be looking at and dealing with here on this.

And I wish, I just hope that the provincial NDP will tell Mulcair, you know what? We're not going to play your political games. We're going to maybe deal with Saskatchewan issues and represent Saskatchewan people. Because I'll tell you what. When it comes to terrorism and fighting terrorism across the world and in Canada, they're for it. The constituents and the people of this great province want to do what they can. Because I'll tell you what. It sickens a lot of people when they see what's happening in the world and that Canada . . . that there's certain members of the NDP that won't try to help to stop that.

The Deputy Speaker: — Time for debate has expired. Questions. I recognize the member from Cut Knife-Turtleford.

Mr. Doke: — Mr. Speaker, unfortunately terrorism is a reality not just across the world but here in Canada. We saw this reality last fall with the deaths of Corporal Nathan Cirillo and Warrant Officer Vincent. It is imperative that our country stands against the ideology of actions of ISIL. We commend the federal government for recently voting to extend the mission against ISIL. Both the Liberals and the NDP voted against protecting our country.

To the member from Athabasca: are you going to stand against

terrorism and support our troops fighting against ISIL, or are you just going blindly and follow the party line?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, I will stand again to fight against terrorism and protect our country.

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you much, very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, we know that five former Supreme Court justices, seven former federal ministers, and four former prime ministers including one Conservative are all worried about the harmful effects of Bill C-51. This bill undermines public safety and human rights right here in Saskatchewan, right here in Saskatchewan. The government members seem not to want to talk about that, but I want to know. Does this concern, does this have any concern for the member for Regina Qu'Appelle Valley?

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

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, I'm going to reject the premise of his question because, as I said in my comments, that for them to bring forward this bill, a motion on this bill, is unfounded. This bill has gone back for revisions, so they don't even know what's in it. To bring forward a motion that in fact . . . How could we have a logical discussion about something that we don't have all the relevant information? So because of that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I'm going to reject the question.

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

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. It's very clear that the members opposite have no vision or leadership within their provincial party. This is why they're taking their marching orders from the federal party. On the first private members' day after a provincial budget, they have no provincial policies that they want to discuss on a private members' day to put forward a motion based on provincial policy ideas.

So my question to the member from Regina Elphinstone: seeing there's no leadership within their provincial party right now, at the next convention will he be supporting the member from Massey Place or the member from Rosemont as the next leader?

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

Mr. McCall: — This brings to mind the old adage: ask a silly question, Mr. Speaker, get a silly answer. So I'll try to refrain from providing a silly answer, but I guess this is part of the point of the exercise.

We know that this government has a very close relationship with the Harper Conservative government. That member in particular has drawn a salary working for the Harper

Conservative government. So how is it that when you've got a bill before the federal parliament that poses a number of dangers to Saskatchewan people's rights and freedoms . . . What is the position of that government when it comes to reining their pals in the federal Harper Conservative government in? Has that government stood up for the people of Saskatchewan, or have they just rode along in the hip pocket of the Harper Conservative government as per usual?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Five former Supreme Court justices, seven former federal ministers, and four former prime ministers including one Conservative are all worried about the harm that Bill C-51 will cause. This bill undermines public safety and human rights right here in Saskatchewan. It lacks an effective oversight mechanism for CSIS. Does any of this concern the member from Melfort?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Melfort.

Mr. Phillips: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. You know, we sit in this House and we're talking about a federal motion, and they're saying that it affects us. Well of course every federal motion affects us. But I believe the Parliament of Canada has a sober Chamber of sober second thought — maybe they have one too many — and we are not it. We are the provincial Legislative Assembly.

And I wonder in my mind when we go back to some laws that we have, like the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] and the Armed Forces being able to carry weapons within Canada. If we have laws that say, no they can't, just take us outside and shoot us. Because we know our democracy. We know the way things work. And they would love to change it and think of the world's worst ideas — but not going to happen.

[12:00]

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

Mr. Marchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the world is being held hostage by terrorists. I've been behind the Berlin Wall. I've been through armed Checkpoint Charlie. I've been to the memorial at Dachau where it professes, "never again." I've seen first-hand the result of terrorist oppression and, make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, Hitler was a terrorist. And we have all seen, first-hand, terrorism in Canada. Yet the members opposite would oppose an Act aimed at ensuring the safety of our citizens and our democracy.

To the member from Saskatoon Centre: do you support protecting our way of life and our people, or do you support terrorism?

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. A very important question, and of course I think what we have to do is

make sure we fight terrorism in sustained, effective means. I want to quote from Ed Broadbent and Roy Romanow, who happens to be from Saskatchewan, but this is what they say:

Terrorism is designed to provoke governments into making damaging mistakes. It is conducted through brutality and rooted in the belief that killing ordinary citizens will cause nations to abandon their most basic commitments.

And that's what's happening, Mr. Deputy Speaker, through Bill C-51. That's why it's not a good bill. We need to do a better job.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Speaker, Zarqa Nawaz, the creator of *Little Mosque on the Prairie* appeared at the committee meeting for C-51, and she said she's concerned that the government is stoking fear and driving wedges between people instead of focusing on working with the community leaders and local mosques on deradicalization. Doesn't the member for Regina Qu'Appelle Valley think that that would make more sense? Shouldn't we focus more on deradicalizing youth here at home?

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

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and I'd like to thank the member opposite for the question. In fact Zarqa is a very good friend of mine. I do spend a lot of time within the Muslim community talking to different members, and yes I do understand it very fully.

But you know what really concerns me is the members opposite blindly buying in to their federal counterparts. They then turn around and state in a question here, do you just follow with your federal . . . We're not adjoined federally. The Saskatchewan Party is a stand-alone party. Many of us happen to be federal Liberals or federal Conservatives but, Mr. Speaker, we have our own mind. And one of the things we are concerned about is the economy, is ensuring that Saskatchewan has a strong economy and is moving forward, Mr. Speaker, so that good jobs are provided for people, especially newcomers here in this province.

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

Mr. Merriman: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'm very disappointed in this debate. I really wish we could hear some plans as to what the New Democratic Party would do or what they are getting their instructions from their federal party on what to do because they don't seem to have any vision on their own.

What I would like to know again is from the member of Athabasca. Does he stand up for Canada and for the people of Canada, all the people of Canada, or does he stand up for terrorism?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from

Athabasca.

Mr. Belanger: — Mr. Speaker, that's an absolutely pathetic question, Mr. Speaker. Of course nobody in any part of Canada supports terrorism, Mr. Speaker. Nobody within the New Democratic Party support terrorism in any way, Mr. Speaker.

I support the men and women that have served this great country over history. I will continue supporting the Armed Forces, Mr. Speaker, because they've got an incredible job ahead of them, Mr. Speaker. The Armed Forces of Canada throughout history, especially the World War II, were considered one of the best fighting forces throughout the world, Mr. Speaker. We should not do a disservice to them by politicizing the process, as I've indicated. We should honour them for the rest of their lives by giving them proper support, respect, and cherish the one thing that they gave their life for — freedom. That's what they gave their life for, freedom that we enjoy today, Mr. Speaker, not politics, not crass politics, especially silly questions like that that was just posed by that member, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In terms of the member from Regina Qu'Appelle Valley saying that she's a friend of Zarqa Nawaz, would she do her the respect . . .

The Deputy Speaker: — Time for the 75-minute debate has expired.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS AND ORDERS

ADJOURNED DEBATES

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Motion No. 1 — Boundary Dam Integrated Carbon Capture and Sequestration Project

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by Ms. Eagles.]

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

Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. And I'm very pleased to be able to stand today and speak in favour of the motion proposed by our colleague from Estevan. And just before I begin, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read the motion back into the record so we know what we're talking about here this afternoon. And the motion reads as follows:

That this Assembly supports this government's commitment to the Boundary dam integrated carbon capture and sequestration project. This innovative facility is the first of its kind and is a tangible step in addressing the production of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Further its innovative technology supports Saskatchewan's resource industry which is vital for the prosperity of our province.

And I'll talk a little bit more about that later as well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Boundary dam 3 is unquestionably and without a doubt one of the best innovative technologies for clean coal power production in the world, in the whole world, Mr. Speaker. So today I'd like to talk about three different things, Mr. Deputy Speaker. First of all, I'd like to talk a little bit about SaskPower's record in our province and the recent statistics from Boundary dam 3 because, as you know, our Boundary dam 3 project is up and running now. And then I would like to talk a little bit about what other people are saying about our Boundary dam 3, and then finally, in particular, what other power producers in other jurisdictions are saying about Boundary dam 3.

I think everyone here, Mr. Deputy Speaker, knows that Saskatchewan Power Corporation has been providing power for this province since 1929. Their providing of power and their mandate in this province is to provide reliable, safe, and affordable power to the customers they serve. And presently they serve about 500,000 customers in this province, and they maintain 152 000 kilometres of power lines in this province. Because our province is vast and our population is scattered in some areas, that is definitely a challenge for them, and that's why we'll see in our budget again this year that SaskPower is committing approximately \$1 billion in infrastructure to catch up on deficit that's been left to them. And I'll talk a little bit more about that later when I touch on some things from our budget here today.

SaskPower produces in excess of 4000 megawatts of power in this province. And I'd just like to give you a little bit of a breakdown of where that power comes from, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Nine hundred megawatts of that power comes from hydro, from seven different hydro stations throughout the province here in Saskatchewan. Two hundred twenty-five megawatts of power comes from wind from two different facilities, wind farms here in Saskatchewan. Fourteen hundred megawatts of that power comes from five stations producing power from natural gas. And from three coal-fired power plants, 1500 megawatts of power is produced in this province. So you can see that we're still in excess of 40 per cent of our power is being produced from coal-fired plants in this province. And, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that's not unlike other jurisdictions in the world. United States of America, for example, also get about 40 per cent of their power through coal-fired plants.

And, Mr. Speaker, we're all concerned about the effects of carbon dioxide emissions in our world today, and that's why several new regulations are being proposed that are going to affect how our power plants have to produce power in the future. And that's why Saskatchewan Power Corporation has taken the initiative to develop such a world-leading, high-tech edge, carbon capture sequestration program down at Boundary dam 3. And that's why they took it upon themselves to, along with Saskatchewan Power Corporation and this government of course, to retrofit a 55-year-old power plant at Boundary dam 3.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, here in Saskatchewan at current consumption levels, we have enough coal in this province for about 300 years' supply. And that coal is a very reliable source of fossil fuel. It has a stable price. It's available close at hand, and it is within our own jurisdiction. It is an owned resource of

the people of Saskatchewan. And those three factors I think are very important in the decisions that were made to go on with our coal-producing power at Boundary dam 3.

And by our carbon capture, our CCS [carbon capture and storage] plant in Boundary dam, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that's a double-edged sword. That's a twofold, win-win situation for this province and for all residents of this province and in fact residents of the world because we are limiting our CO₂ emissions from that plant. But on the other side of that coin, it is also important to note that because we are capturing that CO₂ we are able to commercially sell that CO₂ again. It's also helping the economy and helping oil production enhancement in that area. So it's a double win for us.

And I think for that reason, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is why the *National Geographic* magazine named Boundary dam 3, and I quote, as one of "10 Energy Breakthroughs of 2014 That Could Change Your Life." And it can. And now our Boundary dam 3 plant is up and running, and it has been since October the 2nd of 2014. So the project is generating vast amounts of data that previously were not available to engineers and scientists all around the world. And because of the consortium that Saskatchewan Power has developed, this technology, this data, this information is available to other jurisdictions throughout the world, and we're encouraging people to join our consortium and share in that information.

For a long time people were saying that carbon, that CCS won't work, and there's no proof that it does work. Well, Mr. Deputy Speaker, they can no longer say that. Boundary dam is up and running. We have the hard facts available, and Boundary dam is being effective.

I would just like to share one quote here, Mr. Deputy Speaker, on that note. This is a quote that was taken from the *Pipeline News* in October of 2014, and I'll just read you that quote:

Saskatchewan could have done other diversified projects, especially in smaller distributed renewal projects. That's what we would like to see in the future, reducing our reliance on coal and looking to hydro, biomass, all of those things.

And that quote comes from the member from Saskatoon Nutana, the NDP critic for the environment. And this article goes on to say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the "NDP isn't convinced clean coal is worth the money or that it will work." Mr. Speaker, we now know it will work. And there's two things about this quote that kind of disturbed me a little bit. Number one, yes, you burn biomass and that's green. That's a renewable resource. But also when you burn that biomass you're still emitting CO₂ emissions. So you still need to have a way of capturing that CO₂ and not letting it go off into the atmosphere. And again I'll talk a little bit more about that later on, some findings from some other technologies that are being developed to capture that CO₂ from biomass plants.

The data that's being collected already from Boundary dam 3 not only is going to be shared with other jurisdictions, but it's going to be used in the future here in the province. And because of the data and because of the efficiencies of that plant, we're estimating that in the future plants of this nature will be built

and we're going to be able to build them at about 30 per cent less cost than what this plant was initially costing us to build and to launch. So there's extra savings there as well as some other things, and not only for other jurisdictions in the world but for our own jurisdictions. I know Saskatchewan Power is looking at other ways of limiting the CO₂ emissions on other plants. And down the road I'm sure we're going to hear more about that.

Last fall, October the 2nd was I think a monumental day in this province. That's the day that we launched Boundary dam 3, and there was 250 people from many countries around the world that were at that opening, attended by our Premier and our Energy minister and numerous other MLAs, officials. And I'd just like to share a quote with you from the executive director, Maria van der Hoeven from the International Energy Agency. She said, the launch represents "a momentous point" in the history of development of CCS." I think she pretty much summed it up very well in what she said about our plant being launched that day.

[12:15]

Another foreign ambassador to Canada described Boundary dam 3, and I quote, as "the Mount Everest of technology." The Mount Everest of technology — that's a pretty great accolade coming from a foreign ambassador to our country. He realized the value of what's being done there.

As I mentioned, on October the 2nd last year, 2014, we launched that plant. Since that time, we've been collecting data, and some of the data is indicating that this plant is running even more efficiently and doing better than what we had envisioned it was going to do.

I'd just like to share a couple of stats that were available. These are from February the 11th of this year, Mr. Deputy Speaker, so the plant was up and running for about 130 days at that time. Initially we had forecast and projected that Boundary dam 3 could produce about 110 megawatts of power. We're happy to report, and SaskPower is happy to report, that in fact we are getting 120 megawatts of power from that plant, so 10 megawatts more than what they had initially forecast.

We had forecast initially, that the purity of the CO₂ captured was going to be about 95.5 per cent, when in fact the tests have now come back, as of February the 11th, we're capturing 99.99 per cent pure CO₂ from that plant.

We projected that we would capture approximately 1 million tonnes of CO₂ from that plant. And since it's been under, since we started up on October the 2nd, we have now captured 135 000 tonnes. And happy to report that we are on track to capture that million tonnes for the year of 2015.

We mentioned that we're capturing the CO₂. We're saving it from going into the environment. But on the other side of it, we are able to sell that CO₂ for the enhanced oil recovery in the Cenovus Weyburn and Midale oil field. Because this CO₂ is very crucial in increased, enhanced oil recovery in that field, it's a very marketable product and it's adding to the income available from this plant and helps cut down our cost, of course, on the other side. It is being transported to the Cenovus field by

way of a 66-kilometre pipeline that's running into that field. And because of the efficiencies, it is being produced into there right now.

And the efficiency of this plant I think is worthy of noting as well, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Initially when the projections were made, we thought the gross power produced by this plant would be approximately 130 megawatts, and that's approximately what it's running at, but as I mentioned earlier, we thought that the net production would be 110 megawatts, which in fact it is now 120. So our parasitic load from that plant is actually 10 megawatts less than what we thought it would be and very efficient in terms of what some other plants are doing. And again I'll talk a little more about that later when I compare it to some other plants that are doing similar carbon capture to what we are doing here. So because of that efficiency, we have less parasitic load than what we had anticipated.

I mentioned that we're going to take 1 million tonnes of CO₂ gas out of the atmosphere every year because we're capturing it. And that is great for our business. That's great for our province. This power plant is going to produce about 150 tonnes per gigawatt from that plant. Just to put that into perspective, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the proposed legislation proposed by the Obama administration in the United States which may come into effect later this year, they are saying with new coal-fired plants that are being built in the States they want to see the emissions to be less than 450 to 500 tonnes per gigawatt. Ours is at 150 tonnes per gigawatt, less than one-third of what the guidelines are going to be proposed for coal-fired plants in the States. I think that's a great testament to the technology and engineering that's gone into this plant.

And I mentioned earlier this is a twofold benefits from this plant: number one, of course, reducing the CO₂ emissions, but then the sale of the previously emitted greenhouse gases that were going into the atmosphere. And I talked about the CO₂ that's being saved as well, and there's also other gases and other effluents that we're catching from that plant.

The main source that's using our CO₂ right now, of course it's transported by that 66-kilometre pipeline that goes into the Cenovus field at the Weyburn-Midale field. And that field of course has been using CO₂ flooding for that field for several years now, and they've done extensive testing on the safety of that use. Up until this point they've been drawing their CO₂ via about a 300-kilometre pipeline from Beulah, North Dakota from a plant of theirs down there. So they can now get own-source CO₂ from our plant here.

And I think that we all know the importance of oil production in this province, Mr. Speaker. Our province is the second-highest oil and gas producing province in Canada, and it's very important to our neighbours to the south; 365,000 barrels a day of oil is exported from Saskatchewan into the United States and it is a major part of our economy. Thirteen billion dollars worth of crude was exported last year, and that is 14 per cent of the total petroleum production in Canada, just comes out of this province.

And I think recently we've heard about the importance of that oil industry to our economy here in Saskatchewan, certainly to our budget. And because we are the seventh-largest exporter of

oil and gas to the United States, larger even than Nigeria, and we heard that country talked about here earlier on . . . Nigeria and Kuwait export less petroleum products to the United States than we do.

So I'd just like to talk about some of the ramifications and the importance of this oil industry to this province of Saskatchewan. Two weeks ago on March 18th we just saw a balanced budget presented by our Finance minister, and the eighth balanced budget that this government has tabled. And I'd just like to lend my voice to all of my colleagues in thanking certainly that Finance minister but also treasury board and all of the other cabinet ministers in this government for holding the line on expenses. With a \$14.28 billion budget and a \$14.17 billion of expenses, they held the spending to only 1.2 per cent, and I think that's very, very worthy of note. And I would like to thank the Finance minister for his work and certainly for being a mentor of mine and for the guidance and leadership that he's shown to all of us here.

Only three ministries, Mr. Speaker, account for approximately 73.2 per cent of the total budget, and their budget was up by 1.9 per cent. But all other cabinet budgets, all other ministries' budgets were actually down by point six per cent in this budget.

This is a budget that didn't raise taxes. We didn't go back to the taxpayers of this province looking for more money. We found ways to be efficient, to be more efficient, and I'm going to talk a little more about that, and this is one of the ways we're doing it.

And one of the things of course in this budget that was very important to me, Mr. Speaker, was the announcement of \$129 million of our capital expenditures for our Sask Hospital in North Battleford. This is so important to the residents of our current Sask Hospital, to the employees, to the residents that are in there, and also to all the people in The Battlefords. And I thank the Finance minister and those involved for the opportunity to speak about that here today.

Mr. Speaker, I talked about the importance of oil revenues to our province. I think fully 17, approximately 17 per cent of our revenue last year came from or will come from non-renewable resources, and those resources are certainly important. And whatever we can do to help increase the oil production, decrease the cost of producing that oil, is very important to all of us. And I think in recent times we've seen what the price of oil has done recently. It has gone down, so we can only imagine the decisions I guess that the oil companies have to make as well. And the price of oil being down, I think the oil companies are very happy to have an alternative method to extend the life of some of their oil wells, to increase the production of current wells that are going on. And this is one way that certainly that we can do it.

And I would just like to mention here that this is not only important in the Weyburn-Midale field. Some years ago, a couple of years ago I think it was probably, my good friend and the member from Cut Knife-Lloydminster and I, along with the current Energy minister at that time, had an occasion to attend the grand opening of the Pikes Peak thermal SAGD [steam-assisted gravity drainage re oil extraction] plant in the Lloydminster area.

And of course that day we spent some time with the Husky officials up there, and they were talking about of course the SAGD plant, but also they were talking about they're also working on injecting CO₂ into their field in the Lloydminster area. But the problem there was, they're capturing the carbon from their refinery at Lloydminster, but then it has to be trucked to the field to be injected.

I think because our Midale field is close enough to the Boundary dam 3 plant, we are able to pipeline it, as I've said, by a 66-kilometre pipeline over to the Midale field to be used. So I would just like to take the opportunity to commend the Husky engineers, Husky officials, and the Husky company itself for taking the initiative to start using CO₂ in that area because they realize the importance of how much CO₂ injection and the flood in the field can enhance their production.

And if my memory serves me correctly, Mr. Speaker, I think they were talking about some of the wells in that area, and I think they're fairly deep wells where they were getting about 6 per cent of the oil that they knew that was down there. And by this injection, they were able to increase that to approximately 22 per cent at that time. And I'm sure with the technologies that are evolving every year, I'm quite certain they've likely got that higher.

So there's a ripple effect to this as well, Mr. Speaker. We're not only taking out carbon dioxide that's being emitted from the Boundary dam 3 plant. Because oil companies can now increase the life of their wells, can increase the productivity of the extraction from existing wells, they don't need to drill as many more wells, and of course we know that's a costly business. There's environmental ramifications of doing that, having big rigs running down the road, drilling more wells. So it's not only the carbon that we're capturing from that plant, it's the carbon that we're saving because they don't need to drill more wells. And again that's a win-win situation for all of us.

The carbon dioxide that we don't use, that isn't needed in the enhanced oil recovery, of course we're going to be storing it in our Aquistore project which is being overseen by the Petroleum Technology and Research Centre. And that is their project to make sure the carbon dioxide is stored deep in the ground, safely stored. And the cavern that they're using is 3.4 kilometres below the surface of the earth and because of the hard rock formations above it and around it and below it, it is being stored safely and can be monitored so that we know that it is.

Now we talked about the carbon dioxide that we're capturing from this plant, Mr. Speaker, but we're also capturing other products that do have economic value and can add economic value to the production from that plant. And I'd just like to mention the second product that we're completely eliminating from being emitted into our atmosphere, and that's sulphur dioxide. And we've proven that we can actually capture 100 per cent of the sulphur dioxide and we can convert that into sulphuric acid which again has commercial value. And we know from the data that's being captured from our plant already that there's about 60 tonnes per day of sulphur dioxide that we can capture. That's about one and a half tanker loads per day that we're able to sell, and it's being sold for things like to be used in water treatment plants, to be used in labs. It's used for

pest control. So approximately 5000 tonnes of the SO₂ is being captured and turned into sulphuric acid.

And the third thing that we can eliminate from going into our atmosphere, Mr. Speaker, is fly ash. We are now capturing fly ash from this plant as well, and it again has a commercial value and is being sold and used as an additive to Portland cement in making concrete. And this product can be worth as much as between 22 to \$50 a tonne, depending on the quality of it. And we are able to capture about 31 kilograms per megawatt hour that we're producing out of that plant. And because of that again there's a ripple effect here, Mr. Speaker. We believe that since we've been capturing this, when we reduced the CO₂ emissions obviously from Boundary dam 3, but also we reduce probably 170 000 tonnes of CO₂ that would have been produced in the making of this Portland cement to make concrete, so again, a win-win effect because of that ripple effect.

[12:30]

So I'd just like to sum up a couple of lines here about Boundary dam 3, and then I'm going to move on and talk about another aspect here. Boundary dam 3 is now producing power 10 times cleaner than it was prior to the launch. Compared to natural gas production of power, it is now four times cleaner than what natural gas being used to produce the same amount of power is. And because of the commercial value of the products we're selling from Boundary dam, we're estimating that with the sale of the CO₂, the SO₂, and the fly ash, that the cost of producing that power by coal is going to be approximately equal to what it would be if we were using natural gas. And I think that's another great aspect of this power plant.

Another thing I'd like to share here today, Mr. Speaker, is some quotes about what other people are saying about our Boundary dam 3. And I would just like to, you know . . . I mentioned two quotes earlier on, but I'd just like to start off with a couple of quotes. And first of all I'll just go back in time a little bit here. I'm not going to be like the member from Athabasca and go back into the '70s or the '80s or the '60s or what he raves about. I'm only going to go back I think probably about eight years. I think it would be eight years, yes.

And this first quote I have here is from the David Suzuki Foundation, Mr. Speaker. And here's what the Suzuki Foundation had to say with reference to Saskatchewan: the highest greenhouse gas emissions "of any province or territory on a per GDP basis." Highest greenhouse gas emissions — that was the record of that NDP government when they were in power.

Another quote here from about that same time: this is from the Sierra Club of Canada on the real report card from 2006, Mr. Speaker, and I quote, "... an environmentally regressive Premier and cabinet whose NDP orange verges on brown." That's from the Sierra Club. The NDP orange verges on brown.

Another quote from the Saskatoon *StarPhoenix*, April 7th, 2007, and I quote,

During his tenure, the "green" in Calvert's green and prosperous economy has been covered by a brown of emissions from SaskPower's coal-fired power plants and

are the third-biggest contributor to greenhouse gases in Canada.

That's what everyone had to say about what was being done under the former administration in this province, Mr. Speaker.

Now I'd like to just fast-forward a little bit, back to October the 2nd of 2014 last year, when we commissioned the Boundary dam 3. And here's a quote from David Hawkins, the director of climate programs, National Resources Defense Council, and I quote:

To protect the climate, a large amount of the world's existing coal-fired power plants will either have to be retired early or equipped with effective carbon capture and storage systems. SaskPower is showing that installing CCS on an existing coal plant is a real, viable option.

A real, viable option, and that is being demonstrated by our own Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

Another quick quote here from Graeme Sweeney, the chairman of the European technology platform for zero emission fossil fuel power plants. I quote, "We commend SaskPower and Canada for showing us all how it can be done."

Another quote here, and this is from Chris Severson-Baker, the managing director of the Pembina Institute. And I quote:

... [Its] real significance is that it will be a global demonstration that CCS can be executed on a commercial scale. If greenhouse gas emissions are going to be reduced by major consumers of coal, such as China, or by any industry that consumes fossil fuels, CCS may be a solution and Boundary Dam may be its first commercial proof ... [of that].

Another one from John Thompson, the director for fossil transition project in the Clean Air Task Force. And I quote:

Today's opening of the carbon capture and storage facility at Saskatchewan Power's Boundary dam 3 power plant is a milestone in the global effort to curb carbon emissions. The successful start-up demonstrates that the technology to capture 90 per cent of carbon emissions is commercially available for power plants.

This quote is from Brad Page, the chief executive officer of the Global Carbon Capture Storage Institute. And he said, Saskatchewan is number one in the world:

Saskatchewan is number one in the world. This is an incredibly important event from our perspective.

We're now number one in the world in that. Previously we were number one in the world in the most greenhouse gases. We have come a long way in eight years, Mr. Speaker.

A final quote here. This is from Stuart Haszeldine, the director of the Scottish Carbon Capture & Storage. And he said, I quote, "Boundary dam is working proof for naysayers, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that full-scale CCS on power generation now exists and works commercially

to deliver electricity, with no subsidy." He went on to say, he claimed the plant's opening would "create ripples worldwide."

These are just some of the things that other people are saying about our Boundary dam 3 plant.

And this is one from Morton Bertelsen from the *Norway Business Daily*. And we hear people quoting things that are going in Norway, and this is one that Norway is saying about us here in Saskatchewan. And I quote:

Norway has been trying to build a CCS plant for several years. It has failed spectacularly. It went belly up. They pulled the plug after cost over-runs and delays. Now we're here [being here in Saskatchewan] to learn how you managed to do what we didn't do.

People from around the world are looking at what we have accomplished here at Boundary dam, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to talk a little bit before I wrap up here about not only what other leaders are saying around the world about our carbon capture project at Boundary dam 3, but also what other power producers are saying, what other power-producing states and jurisdictions in the world are saying.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to three southern states, to Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, along with my friend and colleague from Carrot River Valley and several other officials from here in Saskatchewan: two officials from Saskatchewan Power, Corwyn Bruce, the associate manager of the carbon capture and storage initiatives; Ian Yeates who is the vice-president of the carbon capture and storage initiatives; officials from the Ministry of the Economy; and officials from Intergovernmental Affairs. And we had an opportunity to tour several different things down in those three southern states, Mr. Speaker. Firstly we toured, we had the opportunity to tour some oil fields that have been flooding CO₂ into those fields for several years to enhance the oil production.

The first day of our tour we toured a field called the Denbury field near Tinsley. This field, Mr. Speaker, was first flooded I believe back in 2006. And when this company purchased this field, production was about 800 barrels per day, so pretty marginal production from that field. Since they've been able to flood it with CO₂, the production in that field has increased to 11,000 barrels per day. And because of — this is a relatively shallow field; the wells are about 3,000 to 5,000 feet — because of the enhanced oil recovery and the pressure caused by the CO₂ being injected into that field, their cost per barrel is about \$12 per barrel cost to produce this oil. And I think that was pretty important to them because this was a field that they'd invested a lot of money into to get it up and producing again.

And the one thing that we all found very significant about what the officials at that field talked to us about was their concern for the environment, their concern that the CO₂ that was being flooded into this field was in fact being contained. And what they have done to ensure that this is actually being contained is they have drilled perimeter monitoring wells all around their field.

And this, of course, is a fairly large field. It's about 8,000 acres. So they're testing these wells. They have the monitor wells down there so they can tell if there's any movement of the CO₂ and of course their number one concern is the environment. They don't want the CO₂ leaking into the groundwater coming back up through into the environment, but they're also very concerned because the CO₂ does cost them money.

The CO₂ for this field comes quite a distance from the Jackson Dome near Jackson, Mississippi and is piped quite a distance into that field. So number one, they don't want to have the CO₂ moving underground, endangering any water systems, or getting back into the atmosphere, but also when they extract the oil from their wells in this field, of course there's carbon dioxide comes with it. They actually have a process where they capture the CO₂ again. They re-inject it so they're actually recycling the CO₂ that was captured in the first place.

From there we toured another field called the Tellus field. This is a little bit smaller field; it's about 2,000 acres. They're using the same sort of technology, but the wells in this field, Mr. Speaker, are quite a bit deeper. They're between 12 and 13,000 feet. So their cost even with the CO₂ flood is substantially higher than what the Denbury field was, but it's still certainly well within the range that it's economically feasible to go ahead and keep producing this field. Their cost is about \$35 per barrel.

This field started being flooded in 2010, so it's been flooded for five years. And the CO₂ from this field also comes from the Denbury line. An offshoot of that line comes down to the Tellus field. And because of the depth of the well and the depth of the formation, they're using one injection well for each of four production wells. And then they as well have monitoring wells down on the perimeter of their field so that they can keep track if there's any movement of the CO₂ gas.

The next day, Mr. Speaker, was probably one of the most important days of our tour. It was an opportunity for all of us to tour the Kemper County energy facility. And this is an energy facility that's been talked about all around the world I think, certainly all around the United States. The Energy Council has been looking at this Kemper County plant for several years. I'd just like to talk about it a little bit and compare it to what we're doing here at Boundary dam. And the officials at the Kemper County plant were very excited about having the opportunity to quiz our two experts, our two engineers from SaskPower that had travelled with us, and comparing notes on what they're doing in the Kemper plant and what we're doing in the BD3 [Boundary dam 3] plant.

And I think I'd like to point out first one of the major differences between what's being done, why our plant is being called the first and largest in the world. There's two different technologies involved. Our Boundary dam plant burns a lignite coal, what we call our lignite coal. It's a little softer coal. But they also burn a lignite coal down there, but it is even softer than ours. It's very high in moisture; some of their lignite coal down there has as high as between 40 and 45 per cent moisture.

So they use a process called gasification. So the CO₂ that they capture is called a pre-combustion carbon capture, whereas ours is a post-combustion. We burn our coal to create the heat to turn our turbines. We take the CO₂ gas off that coal that's being

burned. Whereas at this plant, because of the nature of their lignite they, under high heat and high pressure, they gasify their coal to get a syngas that they can use to burn to turn their turbines. So they're actually capturing their carbon capture, their carbon dioxide prior to the turbines being turned. That's why it's called a pre-combustion.

I think a couple of other things that are worthy of note between that plant and our plant here, of course theirs is, it's a huge plant. It's going to produce, you know, substantially more power than our Boundary dam 3 will because of their population. It's going to provide power for a good portion of Mississippi.

They are putting their CO₂ that they're capturing into the 60 kilometre . . . 60 mile, I guess in the state, pipeline that's going to the Denbury line to go to those two fields that I talked about a moment ago. From this plant, they're also capturing the ammonia and the SO₂ as well as we do here at Boundary dam.

As I mentioned this is a huge plant, about 500 permanent employees are going to be there. There was 6,200 employees building this plant. So without being negative, you really can't imagine the magnitude of this plant. And they're using new-tech gasification, which has totally never been used before in the States or anywhere, to gasify the lignite to turn their turbines.

The problem that they have is that there's quite a quality variation in their lignite. So they have a problem with that. And because of their gasification process and some of the things they have to do, they have a lot more parasitic load than what we have at our Boundary dam plant.

This plant that we toured in Kemper County had the potential to produce 860 megawatts of power, but in fact their net production peak power is 580 megawatts. So you can see that their percentage of parasitic loss is a lot greater than what ours is here in Boundary dam 3, and I think that's a great testament to our technology, our engineers, and our people that have built Boundary dam 3.

And of course their plant is similar in another way, that's it's a mine-mouth-type plant. The coal mine is right there at the plant, and that's why they built the plant where it is. They can just take the coal, as we do down there, load it in the big trucks, take and put it on site where it can be burnt. And they carry about a million tonnes of coal on stock on site at all times.

And just to give you an idea of the scope of that plant, Mr. Speaker, they're burning approximately 14 400 tonnes of coal a day, and their CO₂ is put into the Denbury line. And right now they're producing approximately 420 tonnes of CO₂ gas that they're not capturing per gigawatt out of that plant, which again is very substantially higher than what ours was at 150. But it's still below what the Obama administration is recommending at 455 to 500 tonnes per gigawatt.

[12:45]

The next stop on our tour down there was, I think, very appropriate to what we're talking about here today. We attended a conference put on by the Southern States Energy Board and

was a SECARB [Southeast regional carbon sequestration partnership] briefing they called it, the southeast carbon capture board. And we listened to several engineers, very technologically . . . presentations, kind of. Some of it was a little bit maybe over our heads, but by the end of our two days there we caught on to what they were talking about. And I think it was very informative, and I know our two engineers from SaskPower got a lot out of that.

And also they were able to exchange some information about Boundary dam 3 to our American counterparts down there. And that was one of the purposes of our tour, was (1) to learn; but (2) to sell our knowledge, what's being done in Saskatchewan, to other jurisdictions, that they will come back here, join our consortium, and learn about what we're doing in Saskatchewan.

Because this was a carbon capture symposium conference, a lot of the speakers talked about the carbon capture that has been going on and the storage that's been going on in the States for quite some time. The first speaker spoke about they're running two demo projects right now. They've been doing it since 2009, and to date they've injected about 6 million tonnes of CO₂. And they have several other projects under way right now, a project at the Cranfield field which is about 5 million metric tonnes are being injected, and in the Citronelle field, which is a huge field. They anticipate when they're done they will have injected 112 million tonnes of CO₂ into that field.

And most of the focus about this conference related to, how are we going to be sure that when we inject CO₂ into the earth, are we going to be sure that it's not migrating, that it's not moving, that it's not going to cause other ripple effects down the line. And I think most of the presenters that were there were either university professors, engineers from various universities all across the southern States. And they had of course reams of data that indicated the monitoring they're doing, whether it's through seismic, through pressure testing, through the monitoring wells that are there, and the general consensus was that there's very little migration of any of the CO₂ that's being injected into . . . stored in the earth.

Some of the things that they thought about was that if you have the monitor wells that are close to the injection well, that's probably your best indication, and they could see the results on the seismic graphs at that time that it was. But when they moved away, a distance further down the line or moved into another formation, they found that there was no variance in the seismic readings from what it would have been before. And they tried to determine a baseline. They thought that was very important, and I think it was too.

And it kind of goes to what we've been doing in the Weyburn-Midale field. They've been monitoring and assessing and investigating for several years there before they started injecting the CO₂, and that's very important, as well as has our Aquistore project down there.

So they found that there's very little migration from the CO₂ injected from any other formation. In the formation that it's put into, it sometimes does migrate a distance, but it doesn't go into the layer above it and it doesn't go into the layer below it. So that was very, I think, very . . . And there's several speakers that talked about the same thing, so it just wasn't one person's

opinion. It was the opinion of many of the geologists, geoscientists, hydrologists, chemical engineers — all of the people that were speaking there.

After that two-day conference that we attended there, we continued our journey, back on the bus again, and did some travelling to some other plants that I think are something that's going to be very important to everyone in the world and certainly to us here in Saskatchewan. And there were some people from the Advanced Resources International there that talked about what they're doing, the amount of CO₂ that's been injected.

Some of the things that come out of this, they've actually now found that they're capturing some of the CO₂ that's being burned. I know Mississippi has a large biomass power production industry in Mississippi, so they are capturing some of the CO₂ from the biomass plants and injecting that in as well. So they're not only taking the CO₂ out of the atmosphere that's coal-burned, but it's burning from biomass as well.

One of the places they've now experimented with injecting the CO₂ — and maybe this is something we can look at here in Saskatchewan in the future, whenever — is they're injecting it actually into coal fields, Mr. Speaker. And the reason for doing that is they are also extracting methane gas down there and burning methane gas as well. By injecting the CO₂ into the coal bed, into the coal seam, it is producing . . . It is freeing up the methane gas, making it easier to access and thereby burn. So again, it's a ripple effect of what we're doing with our carbon capture storage.

Some of the comments said that we need to have more long-term testing, and I think everyone agreed with that. And as I mentioned, we've been doing that here in Saskatchewan. I think that's very important. It's important to find the baseline levels so that we can determine if there is any effects from the CO₂ being down in the earth.

We moved from there to the Bowen Water Research Center. And I think this is important because we all know that there's certain steam comes off of these power plants, and we've talked a lot about limiting the air emissions from our plants, but there is proposed new regulations certainly coming in the United States that probably will take effect sometime this September with regard to water effluent restrictions in the States.

So the Southern Company has developed this Bowen Water Research Center, and they're doing some great work there with limiting the type of water that's going back into the streams, going back into the lakes in that area. They're actually recycling a huge percentage of the water. They had some monstrous big towers there that the steam goes in. When it cools, some of it evaporates because it's going into the water and then it falls back down the side. Just simply by the way these structures were built lends itself to the evaporation process. Then they use the water back again to cool their turbines in that plant — very efficient use of the water products that they're using and no longer putting back into the streams.

Our final stop on that tour, Mr. Speaker, was at the National Carbon Capture Center in Mississippi as well, and again it's being run by the Southern Company. This is a very advanced,

technologically advanced, world-class, and it's a neutral test site. It's a site that we had a little bit of trouble getting our heads around initially, that one company would run a site and several other companies could come there and test their technologies. And we wondered about corporate secrets, corporate not wanting to share information, but the way the plant's set up, they have different areas. There's been many, many countries come and test technology there, some of them like Norway again, from Germany, actually Boundary dam 3 is a member of this, belongs to this group, and they're testing technology there.

One of the things there that they're starting to do — and again this is why they were very interested in talking to our two engineers from SaskPower — was that they're doing both the pre-combustion carbon capture and storage from the gasification process, and as well they're now starting to do the post-combustion capture. Now that plant wasn't up and running yet when we were there. It was just being commissioned probably in the near future. So they had a lot of questions for our SaskPower officials because they realize that what we are doing here obviously is working because we have the data to prove that it's working, and they did say that. Finally on the last day they said, you know what? We know we're going to come up to Boundary dam and we're going to look at what you're doing up there, and hopefully we can incorporate some of those technologies into our post-combustion capture in our plant down there.

There's been at that plant alone, Mr. Speaker, over 30 different technology developers that have used the facility. Again they're state jurisdictions, state plants, other corporations, other power companies, and it's an opportunity where they can share ideas and more ideas than just simply technologies, but ideas that maybe will end up being technologies in the future. And they're truly international uses. And I mentioned Norway, Germany, China have been there. Boundary dam 3 is a member of this consortium as well.

Since they've been opened, just at this test facility alone, Mr. Speaker, they have screened over 300 CO₂ technologies. And it's hard to imagine there's that many technologies available for CO₂ storage, but there is. I think in a process like this, this is the way to narrow them down to the ones that are going to be effective, that are going to work, that are going to be economically feasible to use. And of the 300 they screened, they've actually begun testing on 40 of these technologies, and the reason they're doing that is to share that technology, not only with the companies that are there testing it but with other jurisdictions such as ours.

The pre-combustion testing, here they've spent over 10,000 hours in testing of pre-combustion technology. And in the post-combustion technology, not only here but elsewhere there's been over 27,000 hours of post-combustion testing. This plant employed about 300 to 350 employees.

So, Mr. Speaker, because of some of the things that I've talked about here and the importance of this Boundary dam 3 project and the fact that here in Saskatchewan we get about 40 per cent of our power from coal-fired power plants and probably will continue in the future because at current rates we do have enough coal in this province to last for the next 300 years,

because of those facts and the fact also that in the United States they produce about the same amount of power from coal-fired power plants, that I think magnifies the importance of what we're doing in Boundary dam 3.

With great interest, I had that opportunity that I had to travel to the States and learn as much probably in four days about carbon capture storage and power production and gasification than probably I'd learned in my life before that, and it was a great opportunity and I appreciated that opportunity to go.

Mr. Speaker, not only is it important that we capture our carbon dioxide, store it, or use it in our enhanced oil production. That's one side of it. But the other side of it is the ripple effect that happens, as I mentioned before, not only in our Weyburn-Midale field but up closer to my area. And there's also three more plants being built up in that area as well that are going to use some of this similar technology, although it's SAGD technology, but it's technology that's being evolved over time. And it's through projects like Boundary dam 3 that this technology becomes available and will continue to become available.

The economic benefits, not only the benefits to saving our environment and saving the environment for our future generations, for our kids and for our grandkids but the economic benefits and the ripple effect because we can use that CO₂ in our oil fields . . . And with the price of oil being what it is today, as I mentioned earlier, the oil companies I'm sure are more than anxious to get whatever CO₂ they can produced at our plants so that they can not only increase their production from current wells by a substantial percentage, but they can extend the life of those wells thereby to meet their needs for oil production, for the world's needs for oil production.

We don't need to be running down the road, drilling new oil wells and finding new sources of oil. We know that's there oil in some of those existing wells, but it just wasn't economically feasible to get it out. The volume wasn't there to make it economically feasible, but by flooding these oil fields with CO₂ it gives an opportunity to make these wells productive at an economically feasible level.

As well our other two products that we're saving from Boundary dam 3, just to wrap up here, Mr. Speaker: the SO₂ that's being converted into sulphuric acid and being sold at the rate of about one and a half tankers per day, saving some . . . One hundred per cent of the SO₂ that was going into the air is now being captured and sold. Our fly ash that we're saving, Mr. Speaker, at a rate of 22 to \$50 per tonne of the fly ash, saving again . . . to concrete producers, from running plants to make concrete because they now use the fly ash in those plants. And we know for a fact that that saves an additional 170 000 tonnes of CO₂ from that production going into the atmosphere.

So having said all of that, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that I am very pleased to be able to support the motion . . .

[13:00]

The Speaker: — It is my duty to interrupt debate on private members' motion no. 1 under rule 27 which reads:

27(1) Items of business on the Order Paper under each category of Private Members' Public Bills and Orders may not be adjourned more than three times, at which time Rule 27(3) applies . . .

27(3) After any order under Private Members' Public Bills and Orders has been adjourned a third time, a notation "To be voted" shall be applied to that item on the Order Paper.

27(4) When an order to be voted is called, it shall not be further adjourned, and the Speaker shall put every question necessary to dispose of the motion at the conclusion of the debate or, if not disposed of sooner, immediately prior to the ordinary time of daily adjournment.

The motion by the member from Estevan reads:

That this Assembly supports this government commitment to the Boundary dam integrated carbon capture and sequestration project. This innovative facility is the first of its kind and is a tangible step in addressing the production of greenhouse gases worldwide. Further, its innovative technology supports Saskatchewan's resource industry which is vital to the prosperity of our province.

Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — All those in favour say aye.

Some Hon. Members: — Aye.

The Speaker: — All those in favour say no.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — The ayes have it. Call in the members.

[The division bells rang from 13:02 until 13:06.]

The Speaker: — All those in favour please rise.

[Yeas — 39]

Stewart	Duncan	Eagles
McMorris	Reiter	Toth
Huyghebaert	Doherty	Moe
Docherty	Campeau	Heppner
Cheveldayoff	Harrison	Tell
Ottenbreit	Norris	Hart
Kirsch	Bjornerud	Brkich
Makowsky	Weekes	Cox
Wilson	Marchuk	Ross
Michelson	Hutchinson	Young
Jurgens	Steinley	Merriman
Lawrence	Tochor	Elhard
Parent	Phillips	Doke

The Speaker: — All opposed please rise.

[Nays — 5]

Brotten
McCall

Wotherspoon
Sproule

Chartier

The Speaker: — Order.

Senior Committee Clerk: — Mr. Speaker, those in favour of the motion, 39; those opposed, 5.

The Speaker: — The motion carries. It now being after the hour of adjournment, this House stands adjourned to 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 13th.

[The Assembly adjourned at 13:09.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STATEMENT BY A MEMBER

Apology for Remarks During Statements by Members

Steinley 6867

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Brotten 6867

Morgan 6867

Wyant 6867

Chartier 6867

Duncan 6867

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Forbes 6868

Wotherspoon 6868

Chartier 6868

Sproule 6868

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

World Autism Awareness Day

Chartier 6869

Marchuk 6869

Asbestos Awareness Week

Forbes 6869

4-H Members Compete in Public Speaking Competition

Wilson 6869

Legacy Award for Prince Albert Couple

Jurgens 6870

Funding for New Hepatitis Drugs

Tochor 6870

Message of Easter

Toth 6870

QUESTION PERIOD

Provision of Care and Staffing Levels in Long-Term Care Facilities

Brotten 6871

Duncan 6871

Funding for Education

Wotherspoon 6872

Morgan 6873

Besnard Lake Facility Evacuation

Vermette 6874

Tell 6874

Provincial Budget and Public Debt

Belanger 6874

Krawetz 6874

TABLING OF COMMUNICATION

The Speaker 6875

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Cox 6875

SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

Federal Government Bill C-51 and Provincial Budget

Forbes 6875, 6884

Phillips 6877, 6885

McCall 6878, 6884

Ross 6880, 6884

Belanger 6881, 6884

Brkich 6883

Doke 6884

Steinley 6884

Marchuk 6885

Sproule 6885

Merriman 6885

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS AND ORDERS

ADJOURNED DEBATES

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Motion No. 1 — Boundary Dam Integrated Carbon Capture and Sequestration Project

Cox	6886
Recorded Division	6894

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

CABINET MINISTERS

Hon. Brad Wall
Premier

President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Bill Boyd

Minister of the Economy
Minister of Energy and Resources
Minister Responsible for The Global
Transportation Hub Authority
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Power Corporation

Hon. Jennifer Campeau

Minister of Central Services
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Transportation Company

Hon. Mark Docherty

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

Hon. Kevin Doherty

Minister of Advanced Education
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Telecommunications

Hon. Dustin Duncan

Minister of Health

Hon. Donna Harpauer

Minister of Social Services
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Jeremy Harrison

Minister Responsible for Immigration,
Jobs, Skills and Training
Minister Responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan
Minister Responsible for Innovation
Minister Responsible for Trade

Hon. Nancy Heppner

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Gaming Corporation

Hon. Ken Krawetz

Deputy Premier
Minister of Finance

Hon. Don McMorris

Minister of Crown Investments
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Government Insurance
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Liquor and Gaming Authority
Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission
Minister Responsible for the Lean Initiative

Hon. Scott Moe

Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Security Agency
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan
Water Corporation

Hon. Don Morgan

Minister of Education
Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety
Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan
Workers' Compensation Board

Hon. Greg Ottenbreit

Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health

Hon. Jim Reiter

Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations,
Métis and Northern Affairs
Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated

Hon. Lyle Stewart

Minister of Agriculture
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop
Insurance Corporation

Hon. Christine Tell

Minister Responsible for Corrections and Policing

Hon. Gordon Wyant

Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Minister Responsible for SaskBuilds