



FOURTH SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

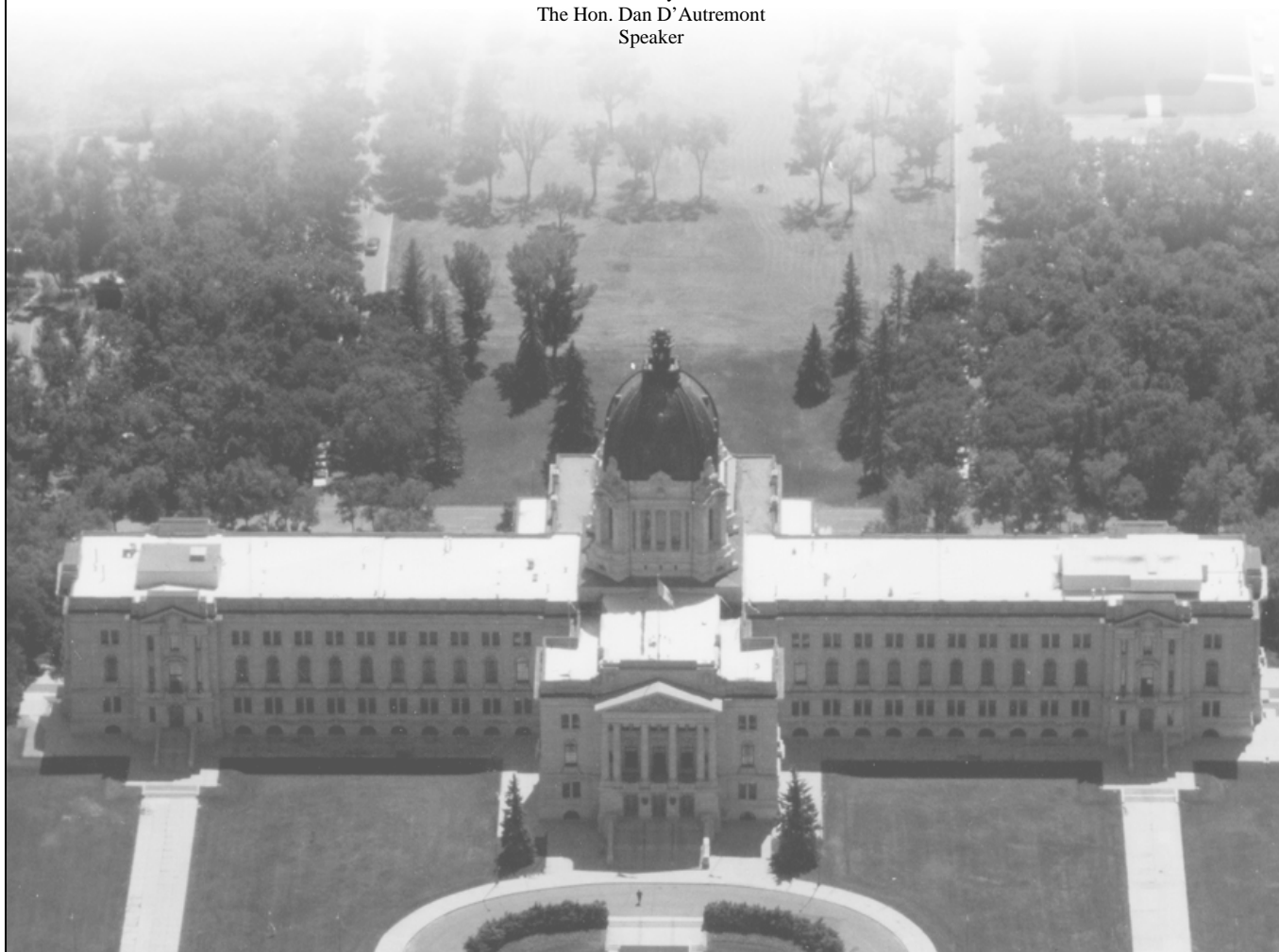
of the

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
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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
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Jurgens, Victoria	SP	Prince Albert Northcote
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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
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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 13:30.]

Clerk: — Members, Mr. Speaker will not be present today to open today's sitting.

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Rural and Remote Health.

Hon. Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'm not sure where they're seated in the Assembly exactly, but I know we have a contingent of midwives in the Assembly today. So I'd ask all members to welcome these valuable members of the health care team in the province to our Legislative Assembly and their Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. To you and through you, I would like to introduce a bunch of students from northern Saskatchewan. We had a chance today to meet with them. They went through a practice round of question period and bills and stuff.

And I just want to welcome those individuals to their Legislative Assembly, to let them know that this is their place, and we represent them, and government has an obligation to all our residents to look after us. So I just want to welcome you to your Legislative Assembly, to let you know this is your gallery. We're here on behalf of citizens of northern Saskatchewan as well as you students. I wish you well, a safe journey home. Welcome to your Legislative Assembly. I ask all members to join me please.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport.

Hon. Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave for an extended introduction.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. To you and through you it is my pleasure to introduce, sitting in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, some special guests who joined us today from northern Saskatchewan. Seated in the Speaker's gallery are 32 high school students from nine different northern communities. They've travelled a long way to take part in the Charles Knight Youth Mentorship program hosted by the Provincial Capital Commission. I'm thrilled that they could join us in the legislature today.

Today is the second day of the youth mentorship program. Already this group has toured the University of Regina, First Nations University of Canada, Government House, the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] Training Academy, and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. They are at the Legislative Building today meeting with MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] and government officials to learn about our province's history, the democratic process, and jobs with the public service.

One of the purposes of this program is to expose students to some of the post-secondary and career opportunities in our growing province. We want them to know that they can set high goals for themselves and achieve them right here in Saskatchewan. Participating in this program are students from the communities of Dillon, Cumberland House, La Ronge, Wollaston Lake, Ile-a-la-Crosse, La Loche, Stanley Mission, Pelican Narrows, and Hall Lake. Thanks to the teachers who have accompanied them to their capital city and to the staff of the Provincial Capital Commission for organizing this program for them.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members join me in welcoming these guests to their Legislative Assembly, and thank you.

While I'm on my feet, Mr. Deputy Speaker, sitting in the west gallery, it's my pleasure to introduce a group of 40 grade 4 and 5 students from Dr. L.M. Hanna School. Give everybody a wave here. Mr. Speaker, accompanying them today are their teachers Jennifer Huber, Lisa Jones, and parent chaperone is Tasha Balkwill. It's my pleasure to have them in the gallery today, Mr. Speaker, the legislature. And I look forward to getting stumped by their questions a little later today, but all members if you could join me in welcoming the students from Dr. Hanna to their legislature.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I am pleased today to welcome Joanne Havelock, Kim Smith, and Julian Wotherspoon here today. They are midwifery advocates, consumer advocates for increasing the number of midwives we have here in Saskatchewan. They're with the organization, Where's My Midwife? Saskatchewan. I'd like to welcome these women to their legislature and thank them for all the work that they do in trying to increase the number of midwives we have across this province. So with that I'd ask all members to join me in welcoming these women to their legislature.

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

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, with leave for an extended introduction.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has asked for leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the minister.

Hon. Mr. Stewart: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Mr. Deputy Speaker, to you and through you I would like to recognize this year's Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship recipients. The Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship is an important part of the Ministry of Agriculture's ThinkAg initiative. Through this initiative we are able to maintain a positive, accurate perception of agriculture among our province's youth.

Each year the Government of Saskatchewan recognizes four young people for their passion and dedication to agriculture. They've spent countless hours completing school work, taking part in extracurricular activities, and getting first-hand experience in the agriculture industry.

Winning this scholarship is not easy. This year we received 18 outstanding applications. Choosing our top four proved difficult, and choosing a grand prize recipient was even more so. These four individuals represent the future of the agriculture industry in the province. They are bright, innovative, and dedicated.

Seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, are the scholarship winners, and I ask them to wave as I announce their names: Morgan Heidecker of Middle Lake has been chosen as the grand prize scholarship winner. Morgan submitted a video explaining that she wants to work in agriculture because it is a timeless industry with global possibilities. Morgan will begin studies at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan this coming fall. As the winner of the grand prize scholarship, she has earned \$4,000 to help pay for her studies.

Our three runner-up winners were each awarded \$2,000 to be used in the same manner. In no particular order, our three runner-up winners are Shelby Evans of Kenaston who will be attending the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan. Shelby grew up on a cattle ranch. In her application video, she explained that it is her dream to manage her family ranch and purebred cattle business.

Cassandra Maurer of Grenfell will be taking the agricultural machinery technician program at Parkland College. Cassandra is attracted to the agriculture industry because of how dynamic and technologically advanced it is. Her application showed us how truly appreciative she is of the accomplishments every member of our agriculture industry works to achieve.

Alyxandria Harland of Lloydminster, who was not able to join us today, will also be attending the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan. Alyxandria's dream is to become a veterinarian. In her essay she says she looks forward to building working relationships with cattle producers as their veterinarian.

Each of our four recipients are eager to showcase their pride in the agriculture industry. I'd like to thank all of the scholarship recipients for their dedication and passion for agriculture. I look forward to seeing what you each achieve.

I ask all members to join me in welcoming this year's winners of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship to their legislature.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. On behalf of the official opposition, I too would like to welcome these three students to their legislature. As the official opposition critic for Agriculture, I want to say welcome to your legislature and congratulations on the award.

Also, two of you will be going to school with my son this fall. He's also going into animal sciences at the U of S [University of Saskatchewan]. So I think that's Morgan and Shelby, we heard. Keep an eye on him. He's a city kid. He doesn't know much about farming, but he is definitely interested in becoming a vet himself.

And so I think I certainly am excited for you for entering into agriculture at this point in our province's history. It's a very exciting time in agriculture, and the opportunities are endless. I actually forwarded the press release to my son today, saying, look at what you're getting into; this is an exciting field. So congratulations all of you. All the best in your future careers, and we look forward to great things from you. So welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Marchuk: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'd like to join with my esteemed colleague from Coronation Park in welcoming the teachers, students, and chaperones from Dr. L.M. Hanna school, in particular, Ms. Huber, Jennifer Huber, who is a long-time personal friend of our family and colleague with my wife, Karen, at . . . I forget where that was, Jennifer, thanks. Anyway, it wasn't with me. It was with my wife. Anyways . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . A senior's moment, thank you, Mr. Speaker. A long-time friend of our family's and colleague with my wife, and thank them for bringing their students to their Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, thanks.

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

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, to ask for extended leave . . . or an extended introduction, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — The member's asked for leave for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member.

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to stand again today in my place to recognize the northern students and to say that it's very, very inspirational for us to have northern students come from across northern Saskatchewan to travel all this distance to take advantage of some of the opportunities and touring some of the great facilities of our province, including this Assembly.

And I want to thank the people within the Capital Commission

that organized this important visit. I want to thank the chaperones that are also here. And one of the chaperones I want to especially recognize is Corrine Favel, who is the wife of the famous Butch Favel of Ile-a-la-Crosse who's a great friend. And of course I also want to recognize my wife's cousin, Rhonda. We used to call her Rhonda Wait, and I know she's married, but I forgot her married name. But I want to thank her for coming in as well, as well as all the other teachers that are here today. But, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to them in Cree:

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

And for translation: I'm very pleased that they're here, is what I said in Cree, and that this is their home and that they have nothing here to fear.

And I also want to recognize the Dene students that are here. And my Dene isn't of course as good as theirs, but I want to say very quickly in Dene:

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

And, Mr. Speaker, in Dene the quick translation is that I'm very pleased that they're here today, to welcome them to their House, and that I'm originally from Patuanak.

So I wanted to point out that it's always an extreme pleasure of getting students coming here from all the way from northern Saskatchewan and to simply say to them that you're the best. Thanks so much for coming.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Mr. Forbes: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Today I rise to present a petition in support of better schools here in Saskatchewan. We know that far too many of our classrooms are overcrowded and under-resourced, and that the Sask Party government has eliminated hundreds of educational assistant positions and that students often do not get the one-on-one attention they need. The condition of many of our schools is rundown, unsafe, or uninspected, and this government refuses to release information on the \$1.5 billion of known repairs that are needed in our schools. This government's plan to rent schools from private corporations is expensive and reckless. And none of this is acceptable given the record revenues this government has had over the last eight years. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on this government to immediately stop ignoring schools and start prioritizing students by capping classroom sizes, increasing support for students, and developing a transparent plan to build and repair our schools.

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

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

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I rise today to present a petition. Homelessness is a major problem in La Ronge and other parts of the North, and it's getting worse. Shelter is a basic need for everyone, but under this government it's getting harder and harder for people to find adequate housing, especially families, seniors, women and children who face abusive situations. The problem is getting worse because of the rising level of poverty and skyrocketing home ownership costs. The prayer reads:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan take the following action: to cause the Saskatchewan government to build a homeless shelter in the Lac la Ronge area to meet the needs of addressing homelessness in the Lac la Ronge area.

And it's signed by many good people of northern Saskatchewan. I so present.

[13:45]

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

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Once again I rise in my place today to present a petition in support of greater accountability by the provincial government and it relates to the P3 [public-private partnership] projects, Mr. Speaker. And the petitioners . . . The prayer reads as follows:

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable Legislative Assembly call on this government to immediately pass *The Public-Private Partnership Transparency and Accountability Act*.

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

Mr. Speaker, and these petitioners have come from Canora, Moose Jaw, and from all throughout the land. And I so present.

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

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I rise again today to present a petition in support of maintaining hyperbaric services at the Moose Jaw Hospital.

The petitioners point out that the people of Moose Jaw worked hard for many years through fundraising and community activism in order to procure a hyperbaric chamber for the Moose Jaw Hospital. They point out that hyperbaric treatments are essential for the proper treatment for many people living with diabetes, cancer, and other conditions. The petitioners point out that the existing hyperbaric chamber is the only unit of its kind currently in operation between Edmonton and Toronto, and they point out that hyperbaric services will no longer be offered in the new design for the Moose Jaw Hospital because of the changes to the hospital design initiated through the John Black version of lean. I'd like to read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly require the Sask

Party government to reverse its decision to scrap the hyperbaric chamber and to instead ensure that this service continues to be provided in the new Moose Jaw Hospital.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this petition is signed by citizens of Moose Jaw. I so submit.

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

Ms. Sproule: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am rising today to present a petition in support of retaining Yarrow Youth Farm. We know that the government has closed Yarrow Youth Farm and they've created an open-custody wing in Kilburn Hall, which is a secure custody unit for youth considered a greater risk to their communities, and this is to accommodate the Yarrow residents.

The provincial Advocate for Children and Youth has declared he cannot endorse such a rationalization because low-risk teens could be influenced and pressured by close proximity to high-risk youth who may be involved in serious crimes or gangs, and Kilburn Hall is a more institutional environment that could intimidate and alienate teens that have committed minor offences. And so, Mr. Deputy Speaker, 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 keep Yarrow Youth Farm open, to ensure a caring home environment for youth who have committed minor offences, and provide support to help these young people redirect their lives by setting more positive goals.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is signed by citizens of Saskatoon. I so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

International Day of the Midwife

Ms. Chartier: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Today is the International Day of the Midwife. More and more women in our province would like to choose to be supported through their pregnancies, the births of their children, and the postpartum period by a midwife. Unfortunately, access to this important service for women and families in Saskatchewan remains elusive. In almost eight years this government has not managed to expand midwifery beyond three health regions despite the benefits it can provide to mothers, babies, and the health care system.

Currently there are only 13 midwives practising in all of Saskatchewan, with demand where it is offered far outstripping supply. This year's International Day of the Midwife theme is The World Needs Midwives Now More Than Ever, and that certainly holds true here in our province. The global need for

midwifery services has been recognized by the World Health Organization and many leaders in public health, and this government needs to do more to ensure that every woman who wants to use a midwife can have that option regardless of where they live in this province.

One group that is advocating to the government to fix the shortage of midwives and the disparity of services is Where's My Midwife? Saskatchewan. They have been circulating petitions and raising awareness about the state of midwifery in our province, and they hope their work will not fall on deaf ears.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in recognizing International Day of the Midwife today and celebrating the work midwives do to keep mothers and their children healthy, here in Saskatchewan and around the world. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatchewan Rivers.

Hon. Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Today is International Day of the Midwife. Midwives offer a valuable service to mothers and their babies. Our province has been offering midwifery services since 2009 when the first clinic opened in Saskatoon, and since then midwives have participated in the delivery of more than 1,800 babies.

Midwifery services have expanded in our province since we first began offering them. There are currently 15 midwifery positions in three health regions in Saskatchewan. Mr. Deputy Speaker, our government provides annual funding of 2.2 million to support midwifery services. We also offer return-in-service bursaries for training and recruitment, and clinical placements for students.

We continue to support the growth of midwifery and we're looking at ways to expand access to these very important services. In 2015-16 we'll begin providing funding that will increase the capacity of midwifery programs in our province. This funding will allow a qualified nurse or paramedic to be the second attendant at home births instead of another midwife. Mr. Deputy Speaker, this will help increase client access to home births and will improve work-life balance for midwives.

Today I want to thank midwives in our province for the great work they do. They bring a valuable contribution to the health and well-being of our residents. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Teacher Shapes Lives of Northern Youth

Mr. Belanger: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise in my place today to recognize a teacher from my hometown that has been doing an outstanding job developing young leaders in Ile-a-la-Crosse and area. Dave Dalton is the math and science teacher at Rossignol High School in Ile-a-la-Crosse and he also teaches robotics. It was for this work in robotics that he was recently named one of CBC [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation] Saskatchewan's top 40 under 40. And every year

Dave Dalton has been taking his students to Saskatoon to compete in the annual robotics competition, and this year he'll be taking his students to a Skills Canada competition.

This is Dave Dalton's third year teaching in Ile-a-la-Crosse and he's been doing a remarkable job. He moved to Ile-a-la-Crosse from Nova Scotia and his East Coast friendliness is obvious to everyone who meets him.

By coming to Ile-a-la-Crosse, he has also had the opportunity to shape the lives of many young people and has made a real difference for students in the North. He is also committed to professional development and spends many hours after classes to improve his teaching methods and also to ensure that his students are getting the best education possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Dave Dalton on his well-deserved award and to thank him for all the work that he does in working with our northern youth in Ile-a-la-Crosse, like many other students do throughout all parts of Saskatchewan, including northern Saskatchewan. I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cypress Hills.

Souls Harbour Rescue Mission Celebrates Anniversary

Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Last night the member from Moosomin and I attended the 25th anniversary banquet for Souls Harbour Rescue Mission here in Regina. With 25 years of serving meals, 25 years of offering encouragement and, most importantly, 25 years of changing lives, it's amazing to see the impact an organization can have on an entire community.

Souls Harbour aims to rescue people from poverty and addiction by offering the gospel message through practical and emergency help such as food, clothing, shelter, and life-changing recovery programs. Since 1990 Souls Harbour Rescue Mission has served more than 1.5 million meals. They've given away 300,000 pieces of clothing and have provided over 55,000 nights of emergency shelter to people who need it most. People participating in addictions programming have received over 50,000 hours of class time and 1,800 counselling sessions have been offered. This means making a difference in thousands of people's lives.

Mr. Speaker, even though Souls Harbour celebrated 25 years of operation last night, this was only the 12th year of the Love Your Neighbour fundraising banquet, and I would like to give special thank yous to the Regina Symphony Chamber Players for providing the entertainment for the evening, as well as executive director, Joe Miller, and his team. Without much of Joe's work, Souls Harbour would not be the safe haven that it is for so many people.

Mr. Speaker, I would like us to add our congratulations to this fine organization on this momentous event.

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

Emergency Services Dispatchers Receive Sask911 Excellence in Teamwork Awards

Ms. Jurgens: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to recognize three exceptional emergency services dispatchers from the Prince Albert area. Betty Lussier, Dakota Marino, and Jill Stefanick were recently awarded the Sask911 Excellence in Teamwork provincial award. They were nominated by Parkland Ambulance communications manager, Brenda Dutchak, for taking extraordinary measures to save a man's life last December.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, on December 6th a man called 911 and told the operator that he was suffering from a heart attack. Then he hung up the phone before providing full details of his location. Lussier, Marino, and Stefanick then jumped into action to quickly determine the man's location. The trio worked with the RCMP, SaskTel, Shaw Cable, and the reeve of Blaine Lake to try to track the man by his phone. After many phone calls, Lussier, Marino, and Stefanick were able to determine where the call for help came from and then dispatch an ambulance which reached the man in time to save his life.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, emergency dispatchers are unsung heroes who play an unseen but vitally important role in saving the lives of people experiencing emergencies. I ask all members to join me in thanking these three women for their dedicated public service and in congratulating them on receiving the Sask911 Excellence in Teamwork Award. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

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

Twelfth Year Gallery Show

Mr. Steinley: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. This past Friday I had the pleasure of attending an open reception for Twelfth Year's class, the 2014-15 gallery show, where I brought greetings on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan. Twelfth Year is a program designed to acknowledge four exemplary students from each of Regina's 17 high schools.

Mr. Speaker, in this program, portraits are taken of the students in which they have a chance to display their passions, interests, and community involvements. These portraits give viewers a glimpse of what truly remarkable youth we have right here in our Queen City. It was clear to see that these model citizens are truly the future leaders of our province.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the great work done by Erin Ball and Andrea Norberg, the individuals responsible for rebranding of the former Youth Salute program into the Twelfth Year program. It was great to see so many members of the community come together to recognize so many of Regina's exceptional youth.

I'd like to ask that all members join me in thanking Erin and Andrea for organizing this event as well as congratulating all the students recognized by Twelfth Year. Mr. Speaker, on evenings like this, it's easy to see that the future of Saskatchewan is in great hands. Thank you very much.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the member from Kelvington-Wadena.

Veselka Spring Festival Celebrates Anniversary

Ms. Draude: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. One of the great pleasures of living in Saskatchewan is the strength of our communities and celebrating all the cultures that make our province strong. I recently had the opportunity to attend the 20th anniversary of the Veselka Spring Festival in Foam Lake. This year's theme was the Spirit of Ukraine. The day included a parade in the morning, a variety of vendors at the community hall, a traditional Ukrainian supper, and entertainment throughout the evening.

The supper included the traditional Ukrainian delicious meal of perogies, three different kinds of cabbage rolls, cornmeal, sausage, ham, headcheese, buns, and a variety of salads that Joan Malinowski and her crew spent hours the previous week making. Mr. Speaker, although this was the 20th year of the festival in Foam Lake, Veselka is still running strong and remains a strong annual fundraiser for the community hall.

I'd like to recognize at this time the perogy ladies of Foam Lake, who in a large part have made the community hall possible. They've made a total of nearly 1 million perogies. The official count is 58,000 dozen perogies in 20 years to help build this community hall.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask all members to join me in thanking all the board members for the Veselka, the local cooks who prepared the food, all the dancers and entertainers who came out to enjoy another sold-out Veselka in Foam Lake. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Expenditures Prior to and During Government Trade Missions

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, when the Premier disclosed the costs of his trip to India last fall, why did he leave out 15 per cent of the costs?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown corporations.

[14:00]

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Premier and as Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission, I'll be glad to answer some of these questions regarding travel and especially issues regarding the Premier and his travel across Canada and especially internationally.

It was kind of implied yesterday that there is a comparison between our Premier and Alison Redford, Mr. Speaker, and I can tell you that there is absolutely nothing that could be further from the truth, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, he was certainly

talking about a sense of entitlement. I will tell you, and every member on this side of the House, Mr. Speaker, would tell you that our Premier has more integrity when it comes to the dollars that the taxpayers put into this province, Mr. Speaker, than any premier that this province has ever seen. Mr. Speaker, some may even say he's frugal or maybe even tight. I'm not going that far, Mr. Speaker, but I will guarantee you that he takes very seriously the expenditure of taxpayers' dollars, Mr. Speaker. I think that might be one reason why he is so popular in this province and the most popular premier in Canada, Mr. Speaker. We'll stand by his record any time when he's travelling around the world.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, there is a difference between Alison Redford and our Premier, Mr. Speaker. Alison Redford had one travel scout and this Premier, Mr. Speaker, has two. That's where we see a difference. Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister, my question to the Premier: why did he not disclose the cost, the true cost of his trip to India?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, the people that went prior to the Premier going on these trips were people that were looking at accommodations, absolutely. They also do a number of other jobs. They're not just travel scouts. They work within the public service, Mr. Speaker, and carry out a number of activities. Mr. Speaker, but it wasn't very long ago that the members opposite were on this side and would have nothing to do with that market, Mr. Speaker, have nothing to do with the Asia region, have nothing to do with India.

When you look at the exports that have grown in our province because of the great work of the Ag minister, the Minister of the Economy, the Premier, Mr. Speaker, that trade into India would not be happening today. Our producers here in Saskatchewan would not be reaping the benefits if it wasn't for the great work of the ministers and the Premier travelling to India, Mr. Speaker. And, Mr. Speaker, we have got a great product to sell, absolutely, in this province, but we've got the best salesman in Canada doing it for us.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, these high-paid travel scouts that were sent by the Premier — two of them, Mr. Speaker — they're doing things like asking for room upgrades, Mr. Speaker. They were not hammering out trade deals. They were just ensuring that the Premier would have the best VIP [very important person] posh treatment possible. Now the 15 per cent cost, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier did not disclose, if he had included the cost of the travel scouts for his trip to India, the total bill would have been 15 per cent higher. But, Mr. Speaker, he chose not to include that figure.

And we saw yesterday when he calculates the travel spending of previous governments, oh, he adds everything in, Mr. Speaker, including the cost of non-government agencies like the

Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership. But when he calculates his own government expenses, Mr. Speaker, of course he leaves that out of the math. Mr. Speaker, so he's in no way, the Premier is in no way comparing apples to apples.

But it gets worse. This Premier has been leaving out the cost of his travel scouts and significantly under-reporting the costs, the true costs, of his travel. So again, Mr. Speaker, to the Premier: why has the Premier not been reporting the full costs of his travel?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, the full costs are included, Mr. Speaker. But even more importantly, let's look at the number of trips that the NDP [New Democratic Party] made when they were in government, in the last year of their government, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in their last year of government, last full year, you know, you can talk about costs; they travelled out of the province 131 times under the NDP, Mr. Speaker. A 72 per cent reduction by our government. Less than 94 . . . 94 trips less, Mr. Speaker, only 37 trips by our government, and produced 100 per cent more production than any trip by the NDP, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it costs money to travel out of the province. It costs money to travel internationally, Mr. Speaker. We've got a great product to sell and a great person to sell it, Mr. Speaker. And the rest of the world is learning that. From India to Asia to Washington, Mr. Speaker, our province is known for its products, Mr. Speaker, and the great leadership that we're blessed with in this province.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister: is he saying that the travel scout information, that those costs were disclosed? Because yesterday the Premier said that they were not.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, we again, we know that the Premier has travelled extensively, Mr. Speaker, and sold the province well. We also know, Mr. Speaker, that the former premier, Premier Calvert, went on one trip to China, Mr. Speaker. What did that cost the taxpayers? \$204,000, Mr. Speaker. That one trip cost the taxpayers more than all the trips the Premier took in the last . . . past year, Mr. Speaker. Talk about a sense of entitlement and talk about a reason why there's nine on that side and 49 on this side, Mr. Speaker. It's because of the actions of that previous government.

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Opposition Leader.

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, we clearly saw yesterday in the information that the staffers were circulating in the rotunda that they are not comparing apples to apples in any way, Mr. Speaker. That is evident very, very clearly.

You know, Mr. Speaker, money for trade missions, that's good. We support that. Money to ensure that the Premier gets the most posh and VIP treatment possible, Mr. Speaker, that is inappropriate and that is not good, but that is exactly what this Premier is directing his travel scouts to do.

You know it's interesting, Mr. Speaker, because Alison Redford didn't disclose the full cost of her trip either, and we have two stories coming from the minister here. The Premier said yesterday there was no disclosure of that information. Now we have a new story today from this minister. But this Premier has been doing the exact same thing — not disclosing the true cost. Mr. Speaker, he's been under-reporting the actual costs of his travel.

Now this Premier, we have seen him not hesitate, not pause for one second to release confidential information about a private citizen and he bizarrely suggests that this is somehow in the public interest. But for some reason he doesn't think that it's in the public interest to disclose the full and accurate costs of his travel, the real number, Mr. Speaker. My question to the Premier: how can he justify that?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee you that the travel costs of the Premier on past trips since, Mr. Speaker, we're disclosing full information on the last trip, Mr. Speaker. But the policy that we use is the same policy that was in place under the NDP, Mr. Speaker, including, Mr. Speaker, a trip to China that cost \$204,000. Did they include everything? I don't think so, Mr. Speaker, because the same policy that was being used back when we reported those trips, Mr. Speaker, is the same policy that the NDP used.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot believe that that member would come into this House and question the integrity . . .

The Deputy Speaker: — There seems to be a lot of discussions across the way. I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee you and I can guarantee this House, and I'll guarantee the people of this province that there is no person, Mr. Speaker, that's sat in the premier's chair that has been more cautious and more conscious about the taxpayers' dollars, Mr. Speaker, than the Premier of this province, Mr. Speaker, and that exists into international travel, national travel, and even travel back and forth to his constituency, Mr. Speaker. He is a model for all of us to follow.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, what a farce. This is the Premier, Mr. Speaker, who sent two travel scouts to compare five-star hotels to simply see which one was more comfortable and which was more to his liking, Mr. Speaker. The minister's explanation is not credible in any way. My question, Mr. Speaker, to the Premier: will the Premier at least tell us how many other times he or his cabinet ministers have used travel scouts and what is the total cost of those advance trips for Saskatchewan taxpayers? Simple question. What is the answer?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, as I've mentioned, the Premier has travelled, you know, extensively nationally and internationally and sold this province very well. What happens previous to those trips will be dependent on where those trips are. If the Premier and entourage, Mr. Speaker, or delegation, is going into countries where there needs to be . . . where there's certainly security, Mr. Speaker, when there's security that needs to be taken into consideration, there may be two travel scouts, Mr. Speaker. There's other advance trips, Mr. Speaker, that don't take as many personnel, Mr. Speaker, going down into the States or whatever, Mr. Speaker. So it will vary according to the trip. It'll vary according to the country. It'll vary according to the size, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we know that the opposition did the same thing, Mr. Speaker, when they were in the government. All the member . . . Oh they're mooing and groaning but, Mr. Speaker, I would just ask the member opposite to turn around behind him and ask the member from Lakeview, when he was the minister of Health, how many scouts he had going before him to the attorney generals' conferences across Canada, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure he's pretty depressed this year, Mr. Speaker, because the attorney generals' conference this year is in Hawaii. Wouldn't it have been nice for the minister of Health to go to Hawaii for an attorney generals' conference?

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, it's good to see we have our very own Paul Calandra here in the Assembly of Saskatchewan here this afternoon. But these numbers and this defence simply is not believable and credible.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier of the province of Saskatchewan should travel and should promote our province. That's what every premier of every political stripe should do. I fully agree with that. What the Premier should not do, Mr. Speaker, is to have highly paid travel scouts — not one but two of them — go months in advance, Mr. Speaker, simply to scope out the best hotels, get the best upgrades, arrange the motorcades, Mr. Speaker, and the best possible VIP treatment. That is inappropriate, but that is exactly what this Premier is doing.

Yesterday we learned, Mr. Speaker, that the travel scouts' visit to India last fall cost \$14,000. The trip to Singapore, Japan, and the Philippines in 2013 cost Saskatchewan taxpayers \$23,500. And now we know the Premier also sent travel scouts to China, Indonesia, Hong Kong, and Singapore in 2012 for a cost of nearly \$20,000. So just for those three advance trips, Mr. Speaker, just those three, that's nearly \$60,000.

So my question to the Premier, Mr. Speaker: for how many trips for the Premier and his ministers, for how many — because we know about three right now — for how many were travel scouts sent and what is the total cost?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, we're certainly not the only province that uses advance people, Mr. Speaker. Alberta obviously has. BC [British Columbia], Ontario, and even NDP Manitoba has used advance scouts, Mr. Speaker, advance people, Mr. Speaker, to make sure that the trip goes smoothly, to make sure that the logistics are set up properly.

But it's interesting that the member opposite, the leader opposite, named and added up a number of different missions to international trips, Mr. Speaker. You can add that up. It comes nowhere close to the one trip that the former premier, Lorne Calvert, took for \$204,000.

Mr. Speaker, the other reason why, you know, we would like to dig back more into the NDP records, but they didn't disclose any of that information, Mr. Speaker, on pre-approved . . . on their scouts, Mr. Speaker, on pre-trip and advance trip, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, the difference is, today we have a province that's growing. We have people that are looking at this province to buy from. We have people looking at this province to put money into, Mr. Speaker, to invest in. That certainly wasn't happening under the NDP and it's a large part because of the work that our Premier and government has done internationally. Mr. Speaker, I can guarantee that members on this side of the House and at least 60 per cent of the rest of the people in this province never want to go back to the old days.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, Alberta ended the practice of travel scouts because it is wasteful and it is inappropriate. Mr. Speaker, this practice of sending high-paid travel scouts to sort out the posh details for a Premier is wrong in any jurisdiction by any party of any political stripe. It needs to stop, and this Premier needs to realize that.

It defies, it defies good Saskatchewan common sense to send two travel scouts in advance to view the Premier's room, to demand an upgrade, to demand that hotel staff are available 24-7 with a cellphone number, to demand to see menus, to demand special motorcades, to find the best possible VIP lounges, to get additional tickets for cocktail parties, Mr. Speaker. All of that, all of that defies good Saskatchewan common sense for people throughout the province, but that is exactly, that is exactly what this Premier is directing his two travel scouts to do.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is to the Premier. Why won't he just put an end to this wasteful and unnecessary practice?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, I find it really interesting when the Leader of the Opposition that serves over nine members, that has been in here when there was 20 and now nine, would say that it is unacceptable for any province or any government to have advance people go before the Premier of a province. So obviously he knows more than Ontario, far more than Ontario. He knows more than Alberta. We know that. He knows more than British Columbia. But it's interesting, Mr. Speaker. He even knows more than the NDP — the only

province, let's hope, that has an NDP government by tomorrow in this country — but he even knows more than the NDP Manitoba under Mr. Selinger.

Mr. Speaker, all those provinces have advance people. I'm not sure they work in the public service like ours do. They work in the public service here. They have advance people that go and ensure that the logistics are proper when the Premier and delegation, Mr. Speaker, arrive. Heaven forbid he ever gets into the opportunity of sitting in the Premier's chair but, if he ever did, I'd love to see him go on his first trip and not have a clue where he's going, Mr. Speaker.

[14:15]

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, I'll call a spade a spade any time. This practice is wasteful. It is bad spending, Mr. Speaker, and it is not respecting taxpayers' dollars here in Saskatchewan. In all of the advance trip information that we've learned so far, the travel scouts, the highly paid travel scouts sent by the Premier, they have not been negotiating deals or hammering out trade arrangements, Mr. Speaker. They were simply making sure that the Premier would be as comfortable as possible.

Look at their itineraries, Mr. Speaker: one week in Hiroshima, seven and a half hours of mostly touring hotels. Mr. Speaker, they spent time, these travel scouts, evaluating multiple hotels in every city. These are five-star luxury hotels. Five-star luxury hotels. I don't know why they have to evaluate one five-star hotel to another. For better pools, better king-size beds? I don't know, Mr. Speaker. Better lounges? But that's the kind of stuff that this Premier has directed these scouts to do.

In all of the documents, in all the documents that we've seen so far, the travel scouts ask two questions about the Premier's hotel rooms that are blacked out. It's very strange why they're blacked out. The government says it's personal information but he has travel scouts in the civil service asking this information.

To the Premier: what is it that the travel scouts are asking about his hotel rooms that he doesn't want Saskatchewan people to know?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, I think I've answered in my previous questions the benefit certainly that this province has seen by the Premier travelling out of province and selling our province, Mr. Speaker. And having said that, you can add up all the costs that we've incurred on those trips, Mr. Speaker, and it doesn't come anywhere close to what the NDP has spent, Mr. Speaker.

So it'd be very interesting. In 2006 and '07 . . . The travel of our government in this past year has gone down by 63 per cent. The travel under the NDP in that last year was \$975,000, Mr. Speaker. Under this government it was 355,000. That's a huge, huge decrease, Mr. Speaker.

Now the member opposite doesn't like the way this government has been spending the money, Mr. Speaker. I'd sure like to know, if we've cut the cost by 62 per cent and we've seen the results that we've seen in this province, what in the world were they doing when their costs were 63 per cent higher and still showed nothing for those travel costs?

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, those numbers that the minister is spinning do not reflect the reality of the information that is disclosed. And we've also covered in question period, Mr. Speaker, that there's information that has not been disclosed by the Premier with respect to the true costs of the travel. We know, Mr. Speaker, that this Premier has a very, very skewed sense of what is in the public interest and what should be kept confidential.

Saskatchewan taxpayers have spent a lot of money sending the Premier's two travel scouts all around the globe, and we deserve to know what exactly they're working on, Mr. Speaker. We already know that the travel scouts, they ask for upgrades for hotel rooms. They inspect the Premier's hotel room. They demand that a staff person be available 24-7 with a cellphone number.

But there are two questions, there are two questions, Mr. Speaker, that have been blacked out. It's very puzzling. What else are the Premier's travel scouts demanding when it comes to his hotel rooms that he won't reveal to the Saskatchewan public? What else?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Crown Investments.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Mr. Speaker, again, we've seen increased sales of potash. We've seen increased sales of our agricultural goods — lentils into India, Mr. Speaker, mustard around the world, canola around the world. We've seen increase in all of that, Mr. Speaker.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, we've even seen a great initiative really started by the Premier and the Prime Minister of Canada with India, Mr. Speaker, that will see uranium sold into India, whereas, Mr. Speaker, in years past the former government wouldn't even entertain discussions like that, Mr. Speaker. We've seen huge increases in export into all of that Asian region, Mr. Speaker, and I can tell you that it does come with a cost and there are results showing.

In 2001, let's look at what the NDP . . . They spent \$187,000. Get this, Mr. Speaker, and before . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . They're yelling from the seats. I understand that. They spent \$187,000, Mr. Speaker, travelling internationally to sell the goods of ISC [Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan]. How much did they sell? Not a cent, Mr. Speaker. That's the travel costs of the former government. I can guarantee the people of Saskatchewan never want to go back to the days of the NDP.

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

Release of Information Concerning Worker

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, long response, no answer. No light being shone on what it is that they're blacking out, what it is, Mr. Speaker, that they're claiming is private information, even though the fact you've highly paid civil servants asking this information to the hotels. It's very strange. They could just expose that information and clear up the matter. But we haven't seen a whole lot of disclosure from this government.

Mr. Speaker, it's not only the Premier's travel expenses that aren't adding up. It's also his story about the leak of confidential information. Now yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the Premier claimed that he only learned, he only learned of the second email with very specific details late last week. But we know, we know for a fact that second email was brought to his attention by reporters on Monday. It was publicly reported on on Tuesday, and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, asked about that on Tuesday as well.

So how are we supposed to believe? How does this claim have any credibility whatsoever, that the Premier only learned about the true nature of the leak late last week? The story does not add up. What is the answer?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition likes to talk about due process, and that's precisely what we're engaging in, Mr. Speaker. The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner will be conducting . . . doing his work, Mr. Speaker, and we'll get the results of that work and we'll be informed by the results of that work, Mr. Speaker. So in the meantime I think . . . And that's exactly what the Leader of the Opposition said yesterday, Mr. Speaker, that we should wait for the work of the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. We will be informed by his work, Mr. Speaker, and we're fully prepared to co-operate with that.

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

Mr. Broten: — Mr. Speaker, the catch here is the Premier's story is not adding up. He claimed, Mr. Speaker, yesterday that he only learned about the specific nature of the additional information that was leaked at the end of the week, Mr. Speaker. But we know, we know for a fact, Mr. Speaker, that he was asked about it by reporters on Monday. We know that it was reported in the press on Tuesday and we know he was questioned in question period on Tuesday about it as well, Mr. Speaker.

So the Premier and his chief of communications, Mr. Speaker, and operations, the Premier has claimed that this individual just had a lapse of judgment. But everything about this mess, Mr. Speaker, speaks to the Premier's poor . . . lack of judgment and his confusing story that is not adding up one single bit. My question to the Premier, Mr. Speaker: how can this government claim that the Premier did not know the true nature of the leak when it was raised directly with him on Monday and Tuesday of last week?

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Mr. Wyant: — Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Premier, I'll take that question. Again, Mr. Speaker, I'll repeat the answer that I gave to the last question. We are going to be informed by the work of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, Mr. Speaker. We should let him do his work. He will be conducting that work over the next short period of time, Mr. Speaker. And I think . . . And it's exactly, Mr. Speaker, what the Leader of the Opposition suggested yesterday to the media. He said, let the Information and Privacy Commissioner do his work, and we'll be informed by that work, Mr. Speaker. So I think we should continue to wait for that work to be completed, Mr. Speaker. We have full and complete confidence in the Information and Privacy Commissioner to complete that work.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Lawrence: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 149, *The Health Administration Amendment Act, 2014* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 149, *The Health Administration Amendment Act, 2014* and that the bill be now read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 149 — *The Health Administration Amendment Act, 2014*

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 149, *The Health Administration Amendment Act, 2014* be now read the third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question.

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Deputy Speaker: — Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to

adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Lawrence: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 164, *The Health Information Protection Amendment Act, 2014* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 164, *The Health Information Protection Amendment Act, 2014* and that it now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may now proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 164 — *The Health Information Protection Amendment Act, 2014*

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Deputy Chair, I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 164, *The Health Information Protection Amendment Act, 2014* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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

Standing Committee on Human Services

Mr. Lawrence: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Human Services to report Bill No. 172, *The Naturopathic Medicine Act* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Mr. Deputy Chair, I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 172, *The Naturopathic Medicine Act* and that it now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 172 — *The Naturopathic Medicine Act*

Hon. Mr. Duncan: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chair. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Health that Bill No. 172, *The Naturopathic Medicine Act* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee of Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 166, *The Local Government Election Act, 2014* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that this bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The Minister of Government Relations has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 166, *The Local Government Election Act, 2014* and that the bill be now read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading.

[14:30]

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 166 — *The Local Government Election Act, 2014*

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — The Minister of Government Relations has moved that Bill No. 166, *The Local Government Election Act, 2014* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs And Justice

Ms. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report — Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a bilingual bill — Bill No. 167, *The Local Government Election*

Consequential Amendments Act, 2014 without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 167, *The Local Government Election Consequential Amendments Act, 2014* and that it now be read a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 167 — *The Local Government Election Consequential Amendments Act, 2014/Loi de 2014 portant modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Local Government Election Act, 2014*

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the minister that Bill No. 167, *The Local Government Election Consequential Amendments Act, 2014* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Ms. Ross: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 168, *The Government Relations Administration Act* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I request leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 168, *The Government Relations Administration Act*. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to move third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 168 — *The Government Relations Administration Act*

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I move that this bill be now read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Government Relations that Bill No. 168, *The Government Relations Administration Act* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

Ms. Ross: — Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am instructed by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice to report Bill No. 170, *The Fire Safety Act* without amendment.

The Deputy Speaker: — When shall this bill be considered in Committee of the Whole? I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I request leave to waive consideration in the Committee of the Whole on this bill and that the bill be now read the third time.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister has requested leave to waive consideration of Committee of the Whole in Bill No. 170, *The Fire Safety Act* and the bill be now read for a third time. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — The minister may proceed to third reading.

THIRD READINGS

Bill No. 170 — *The Fire Safety Act*

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I move that this bill now be read the third time and passed under its title.

The Deputy Speaker: — It has been moved by the Minister of Government Relations that Bill No. 170, *The Fire Safety Act* be now read a third time and passed under its title. Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Deputy Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Cox: — Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I wish to table the answer to question 933.

The Deputy Speaker: — Answer has been tabled.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ADJOURNED DEBATES

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 178

[The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion by the Hon. Mr. Krawetz that **Bill No. 178 — *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2015*** be now read a second time.]

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

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. As ever, good to join debate on matters before the House, in

this case Bill No. 178, *The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2015*, again rising out of certain measures that were included in the budget. Certainly a number of my colleagues have had the opportunity to weigh in on this.

This is a highly technical bill in many ways, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and will certainly benefit from the committee stage hearing of this bill but, in particular, changes that were made to the graduate retention program, the active families benefit, and the R & D [research and development] tax credit, just to name three of the more fundamental changes in this piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker. Those stand alongside other measures such as the new growth tax incentive for manufacturers.

On the one side, Mr. Speaker, we're glad to see some of those measures come forward, and we await the impact and further analysis of what those will accomplish or what has been set out for the new growth tax incentives to accomplish. But on the other hand, Mr. Speaker, we look with some dismay upon the changes that are anticipated for the graduate retention program, for the active families benefit, and for the research and development tax credit.

In the case of the first, Mr. Speaker, the graduate retention program now being converted into a non-refundable tax credit, the program going forward will function less as a rebate as it had previously, Mr. Speaker. And certainly that is something that this government has not campaigned on. They didn't campaign on it in 2007, Mr. Speaker, and they certainly didn't campaign on this in 2011 when they were touting the success of the graduate retention program as it was currently configured. There wasn't much of them going around the doorsteps, Mr. Speaker, saying, you know, we're going to change it from acting as a rebate into a non-refundable tax credit and what that means for individuals being able to access the program. So that's something that we'll be looking to get more insight from the minister as to the impact that will have going forward.

But again, Mr. Speaker, 2007, you know, in terms of a non-refundable tax credit, there was a non-refundable tax credit in the mix at that time, and that's certainly not what they ran on. That's not what the record shows, and that's certainly not any thinking person's recollection of the 2007 election or the 2011. And that's certainly not what students were counting on when it came to the promise that this government has made to them and subsequently broken with this particular change, Mr. Speaker.

In terms of the active families benefit and now introducing the income tax, again this is one where when they're rolling out the fanfare and the parades and the balloons for the active families benefit in different campaign settings, Mr. Speaker, there wasn't, they didn't have a big asterisk up on the pamphlet saying that, you know, the day's going to come when we means-tested and everybody above \$60,000 for a family income is going to be written out of the program. So again, Mr. Speaker, the promise being broken in this regard.

And then of course we come to the research and development tax credit, where it's being cut from 15 per cent to 10 per cent. We'll have questions around what the utilization was and what the tax expenditure for this involves, Mr. Speaker, but again certainly not something that they had up at the front of the parade saying, you know, guess what, we're going to have it at

15 per cent and we're going to ballyhoo that, Mr. Speaker, but times are going to get tough and over the side a third of it goes, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

So we've got questions on any number of the measures in this piece of legislation. Certainly those have been given good voice to by my colleagues in this debate, and certainly we look forward to the more technical sort of questions that can be answered, we hope, in a more fulsome manner by the officials from Finance when this is brought forward in committee hearing.

With that being said, Mr. Speaker, we're ready for it to move to the committee stage of the deliberations for Bill No. 178. And with that, I would conclude my remarks on Bill No. 178.

The Deputy Speaker: — The question before the Assembly is that Bill No. 178 be now read a second time. Is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Speaker: — Carried.

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

The Deputy Speaker: — To which committee shall this bill be referred? I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I designate that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

The Deputy Speaker: — This bill stands referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies. I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that it be referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

The Deputy Speaker: — Yes, it has been referred to the Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thanks very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. To facilitate the work of committees later this day, I move that this House do now adjourn.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

[The Assembly adjourned at 14:42.]

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Premier

President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Hon. Bill Boyd

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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
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