



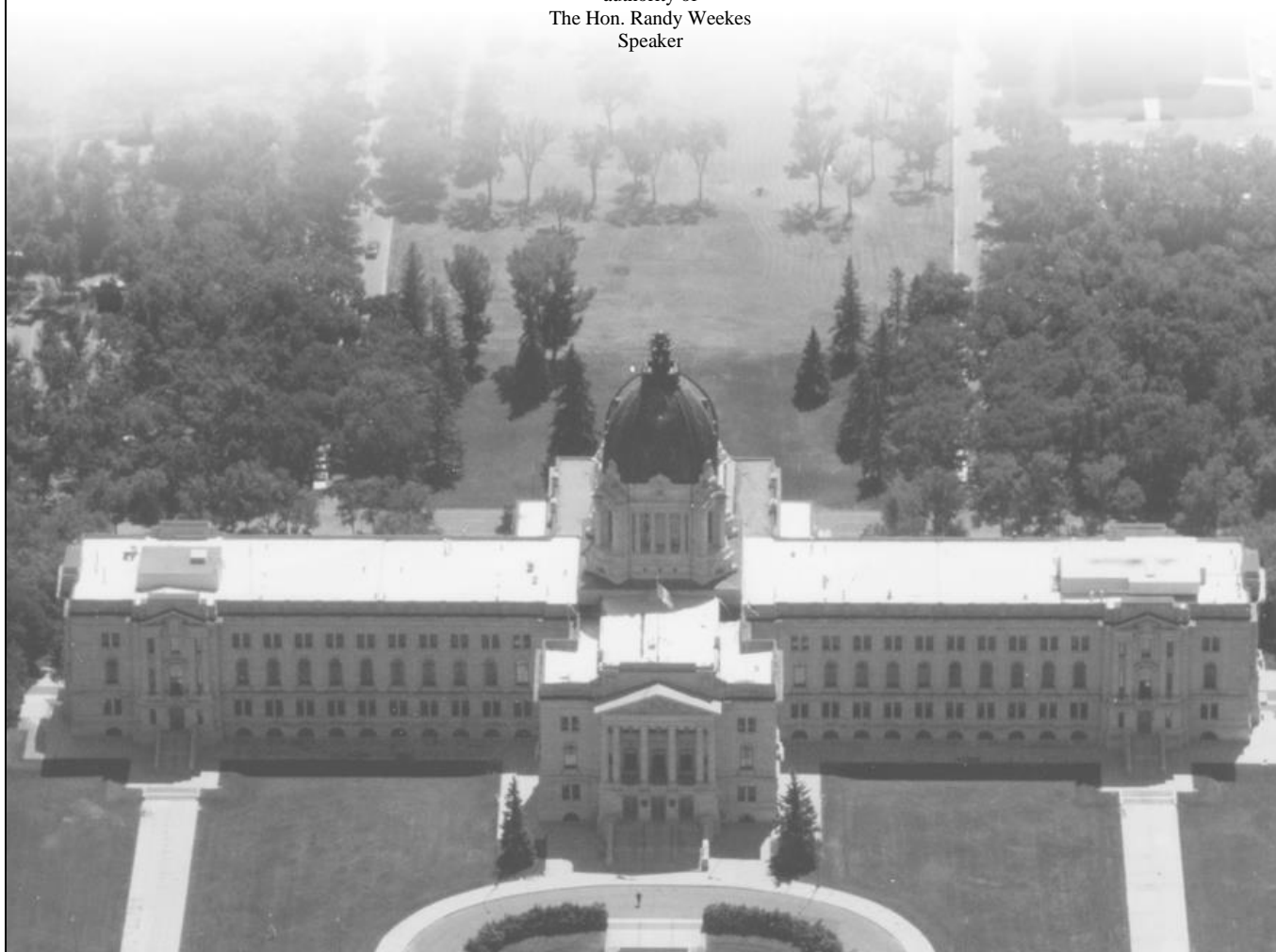
SECOND SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

**DEBATES
AND
PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)
Published under the
authority of
The Hon. Randy Weekes
Speaker



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN
2nd Session — 29th Legislature

Lieutenant Governor — His Honour the Honourable Russ Mirasty, S.O.M., M.S.M.

Speaker — Hon. Randy Weekes
Premier — Hon. Scott Moe
Leader of the Opposition — Ryan Meili

Beck, Carla — Regina Lakeview (NDP)	Love, Matt — Saskatoon Eastview (NDP)
Bonk, Steven — Moosomin (SP)	Makowsky, Hon. Gene — Regina Gardiner Park (SP)
Bowes, Jennifer — Saskatoon University (NDP)	Marit, Hon. David — Wood River (SP)
Bradshaw, Hon. Fred — Carrot River Valley (SP)	McLeod, Tim — Moose Jaw North (SP)
Buckingham, David — Saskatoon Westview (SP)	McMorris, Hon. Don — Indian Head-Milestone (SP)
Carr, Hon. Lori — Estevan (SP)	Meili, Ryan — Saskatoon Meewasin (NDP)
Cheveldayoff, Ken — Saskatoon Willowgrove (SP)	Merriman, Hon. Paul — Saskatoon Silverspring-Sutherland (SP)
Cockrill, Jeremy — The Battlefords (SP)	Meyers, Derek — Regina Walsh Acres (SP)
Conway, Meara — Regina Elphinstone-Centre (NDP)	Moe, Hon. Scott — Rosthern-Shellbrook (SP)
Dennis, Terry — Canora-Pelly (SP)	Morgan, Hon. Don — Saskatoon Southeast (SP)
Docherty, Mark — Regina Coronation Park (SP)	Mowat, Vicki — Saskatoon Fairview (NDP)
Domotor, Ryan — Cut Knife-Turtleford (SP)	Nerlien, Hugh — Kelvington-Wadena (SP)
Duncan, Hon. Dustin — Weyburn-Big Muddy (SP)	Nippi-Albright, Betty — Saskatoon Centre (NDP)
Eyre, Hon. Bronwyn — Saskatoon Stonebridge-Dakota (SP)	Ottenbreit, Greg — Yorkton (SP)
Fiaz, Muhammad — Regina Pasqua (SP)	Reiter, Hon. Jim — Rosetown-Elrose (SP)
Francis, Ken — Kindersley (SP)	Ritchie, Erika — Saskatoon Nutana (NDP)
Friesen, Marv — Saskatoon Riversdale (SP)	Ross, Alana — Prince Albert Northcote (SP)
Goudy, Todd — Melfort (SP)	Ross, Hon. Laura — Regina Rochdale (SP)
Grewal, Gary — Regina Northeast (SP)	Sarauer, Nicole — Regina Douglas Park (NDP)
Hargrave, Joe — Prince Albert Carlton (SP)	Skoropad, Dana — Arm River (SP)
Harpauer, Hon. Donna — Humboldt-Watrous (SP)	Steele, Doug — Cypress Hills (SP)
Harrison, Daryl — Cannington (SP)	Stewart, Hon. Lyle — Lumsden-Morse (SP)
Harrison, Hon. Jeremy — Meadow Lake (SP)	Tell, Hon. Christine — Regina Wascana Plains (SP)
Hindley, Hon. Everett — Swift Current (SP)	Vermette, Doyle — Cumberland (NDP)
Jenson, Terry — Martensville-Warman (SP)	Weekes, Hon. Randy — Biggar-Sask Valley (SP)
Kaeding, Hon. Warren — Melville-Saltcoats (SP)	Wilson, Nadine — Saskatchewan Rivers (Ind.)
Keisig, Travis — Last Mountain-Touchwood (SP)	Wotherspoon, Trent — Regina Rosemont (NDP)
Kirsch, Delbert — Batoche (SP)	Wyant, Hon. Gordon — Saskatoon Northwest (SP)
Lambert, Lisa — Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood (SP)	Young, Aleana — Regina University (NDP)
Lawrence, Greg — Moose Jaw Wakamow (SP)	Young, Colleen — Lloydminster (SP)
Lemaigre, Jim — Athabasca (SP)	

Party Standings: Saskatchewan Party (SP) — 48; New Democratic Party (NDP) — 12; Independent (Ind.) — 1

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Deputy Clerk — Iris Lang

Clerk Assistant — Kathy Burianyk

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[The Assembly met at 13:30.]

[Prayers]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Hon. Ms. Carr: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are 20 public service employees seated in the Speaker's gallery today. They are here today to take part in the parliamentary program for the public service. The program includes a tour of the Legislative Building; briefings presented by various branches of Legislative Assembly Service and Executive Council; an opportunity to sit in the gallery today and observe question period and other House business; brief meetings with members of both sides of the House, which I'll be really happy to take part in a little bit after question period.

The participants are employees from different ministries: Government Relations; Health; Public Service Commission; Education; Social Services; SaskBuilds and Procurement; Trade and Export Development; and the Legislative Assembly Service, Mr. Speaker. Please join me in welcoming these visitors to their Legislative Assembly today.

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

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to join in with the minister opposite in welcoming the folks who are here with the parliamentary program for the public service. I understand that we will also be spending some time together this afternoon, so feel free to bring all of your hard questions about what the role is of the opposition and how it works around here. Thank you for the work that you do in all of the different ministries that you represent in all of these areas, but also for taking a keen interest in what happens in this space and taking some time out to participate in this.

So I would ask all members to join me in welcoming you to your Assembly today.

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

Ms. A. Ross: — Thank you. Request leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Ms. A. Ross: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it's with great pleasure that I introduce my twin granddaughters, Hanna and Laura Wilson. They belong to the West Prince Albert 4-H Beef Club. They belong to the archery club, with great accuracy, I understand. They are raising

minister of Crown corporation and investment for the wonderful tour he provided the Bothas this morning, as it was their first visit to our Assembly.

In 1967, as a young apprentice, Mike Botha started cutting and polishing diamonds in South Africa before finally relocating to Prince Albert, where he and his son Evert and his wife, Susanna, own and operate Embee Diamond. During his 55-year career Mike has crafted thousands of diamonds, many of which have graced the catwalks and stage from Hollywood to the emirates. And he has worked on some of the most famous diamonds in the world, including the Premier Baby Rose, and the most valuable diamond discovered in the USA [United States of America], the Esperanza Triolette.

In this past decade Mike designed the Sirius Star, the world's brightest diamond. This Saskatchewan-designed diamond has been making waves in all corners of the world. One of the most recent shapes, a unique 88-facet, hexagon-shaped diamond, was licensed exclusively to Chaumet, where it is part of the world's number one luxury group, LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, to be sold exclusively at Chaumet's 80-plus boutiques globally.

Most recently, after a decade of research and development, Mike and New Zealand-based master jeweller, Ian Douglas, co-invented the Floeting Diamond. This groundbreaking award-winning diamond jewellery design is the first significant innovation in diamond jewellery since Charles Tiffany revealed the Tiffany setting in 1886. Mike is looking forward to working with his son Evert designing, cutting, and polishing diamonds mined in Saskatchewan to place Saskatchewan at the forefront of diamond and jewellery innovation.

I ask all members to please join me in welcoming Mike, Susanna, and Evert to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. A. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the member opposite on behalf of the official opposition in welcoming Mike, Susanna, and Evert to this, their legislature. And truly thank them for the investment that they've made in Saskatchewan, continue to make, and for making this the place that you choose to showcase your skills, your entrepreneurial spirit, and your mastery.

It's not every day that we get such a sparkling and educational introduction of guests. And truly a privilege to listen to all that you've accomplished and look forward to watching your exploits further in this great province. So on behalf of the official opposition, I ask all members to join me in welcoming these fine folks to their Assembly.

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

Ms. Wilson: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it's with great pleasure that I introduce my twin granddaughters, Hanna and Laura Wilson. They belong to the West Prince Albert 4-H Beef Club. They belong to the archery club, with great accuracy, I understand. They are raising

chickens, piglets, and horses. They enjoy flying co-pilot with their father in the family aircraft, and they also enjoy canoeing. So please give them a warm welcome to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Highways.

Hon. Mr. Bradshaw: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to ask leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Hon. Mr. Bradshaw: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we're joined today by representatives of the Saskatchewan Trucking Association in the west gallery, Mr. Speaker. As I say your name, could you just give us a wave? We have Heather Day, who is the Vice-Chair, board of directors; and Jordan Ewart, manager of policy and government relations.

Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 85th anniversary of what started as the Saskatchewan Motor Transport Association, now known as the Saskatchewan Trucking Association. There will be a member's statement to follow later in today's proceedings. The trucking industry holds a special place in my heart because I actually have a 1A licence myself.

This industry is very important to our way of life. As a landlocked province, the trucking industry plays such a vital role in helping get our resources to markets around the globe. It transports our food from the farm to our grocery store shelves and just about everything else, including our fuel, Mr. Speaker. It employs approximately 5 per cent of Saskatchewan's population. There are thousands of companies in Saskatchewan.

I want to say thank you to Jordan, Heather, and the rest of the board of the Saskatchewan Trucking Association for being such strong advocates, and thank you for your advice and guidance on issues that are important to such a vital industry for our province. I'd ask all members to please join me in welcoming Heather and Jordan to their Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a real pleasure to join with the Minister of Highways and Transportation to welcome the leadership of the Saskatchewan Trucking Association to their Assembly. Welcome to Heather and to Jordan here today. Thank you to you for your leadership within the province, and thank you to your members for the invaluable and vital service that they provide to the people of this province in ensuring the domestic supply of goods and in playing that invaluable role in ensuring transport of our exported goods. So to your members and to these leaders of the Saskatchewan Trucking Association, I say thank you. And I ask all to join in a very warm welcome.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Corrections and

Policing.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Mr. Speaker, I request leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Hon. Ms. Tell: — Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you and to this Assembly, Jeff Shirley. Jeff, if you can stand and wave. Thank you. Jeff is the founder and CEO [chief executive officer] of the Saskatoon company Rivercity Innovations Ltd., and the winner of the 2017 Innovation Saskatchewan Rural Crime Challenge. As the winner of this competition, Jeff and Rivercity Innovations received approximately \$20,000 in funding through the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, and Innovation Sask.

This funding was provided to Jeff to pursue the development of BeeSecure, a GPS [global positioning system] technology that can be used to track stolen items. Once an item is stolen, BeeSecure texts its location back to a predetermined phone number, assisting police in locating the stolen property. While I won't get into specifics of how it works, BeeSecure is particularly suited for use in rural Saskatchewan where the technology can be used to track things like tools and expensive farm equipment.

Jeff worked with the ministry of Public Safety, Policing and Corrections, BeeSecure, and received advisory services and funding from the National Research Council of Canada industrial research assistance program to help support the research and development of its asset-tracking technology. Once the initial technology was developed, Jeff entered into an agreement with the rural municipality of Maymont, I think it is. I might be wrong there, Jeff. As part of this collaboration, the municipality worked to get approved from law enforcement for its use.

This partnership has paid off, and the technology has recently demonstrated impressive results in a very real field test. In February of 2022 an item, with the BeeSecure tracking technology enabled, was stolen from Maymont. There we go. The stolen item began texting messages to the administrators exactly as it was intended. The data collected from the tracking technology led to the recovery of the stolen property and multiple arrests by the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] and Saskatoon Police Service.

Mr. Speaker, our government is proud to be part of the development of BeeSecure through the Innovation Saskatchewan Challenge. We are dedicated to supporting made-in-Saskatchewan solutions to complex problems like rural crime, and look forward to seeing more innovations like BeeSecure from Jeff and Rivercity Innovations.

Mr. Speaker, it was a pleasure meeting with Jeff earlier on today. There is not a more proud Saskatchewan resident who intends on remaining here for many, many years. It was a delight. Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Mr.

Shirley to the Legislative Assembly and congratulating him and his company on their many accomplishments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to join with the minister in welcoming Jeff to his Legislative Assembly and congratulating him and his company, Rivercity Innovations Ltd. for their success. I was very interested to hear what the minister had to say about BeeSecure, very excited to learn of its development. I think it will be a very welcome addition to the growing need for rural crime strategies in Saskatchewan.

Thank you so much for being such a proud resident of Saskatchewan, as the minister has said. Truly we as a province, we benefit so much from the ingenuity and the inventiveness of residents here in Saskatchewan making made-in-Saskatchewan solutions. So on behalf of the official opposition, let me say thank you and congratulations, Jeff.

And while I'm on my feet I'd like to introduce a group of students seated in the east gallery, Mr. Speaker. We have 44 grade 7 students from Arcola School. Could you give us a wave? They're joined here today by Ms. Castle, Ms. Shelstad, and Mr. Schienbein. I'm very much . . . It looks like I probably got that name pronounced wrong by the laughter I've seen from your students. You'll have to tell me how to better pronounce your name as someone who also gets their name pronounced wrong often, and I'll make sure I don't do that again.

I'm looking very forward to having a conversation with all of you after question period. I do hope you enjoy your time at the Legislative Assembly, and I ask all members to join me in welcoming them to their Legislative Assembly.

[13:45]

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

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you. I'm requesting leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Mr. Docherty: — Thank you, colleagues, and thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sitting in the west gallery are a group of friends, but not only friends. This is the Saskatchewan African-Canadian community leaders led by board members of the African-Canadian Resource Network of Saskatchewan. Give us a wave.

I'm going to attempt all of your names knowing full well that I'm going to get them all wrong, but I'm going to attempt it. Sitting in this group is Abdi Gure, board Chair, but also my CA [constituency assistant]. He's from Somalia. Adenike Adeoti is the president. Ercoph Bongomin is the executive director. Aseye

Johnson is the director of membership and community relations. Al Kosteniak is the director of projects. Sahra Warsame is a former board member and director of the women empowerment. Samsam Abdulkadir is the representative of the Regina Somali community.

Father John Baptist is representing the Regina Ghanaian community. Roda Bainah is a child and youth care worker. Mushtaq Badal is a community liaison worker. Mohamed Mohamud is a member of the youth sports. Mohamed Hassan is a member of youth sports. Paul Adekogbe is the Vice-Chair. Francis Adekogbe is the ACRN [African-Canadian Resource Network] youth Chair. Nasri Mohamed is the ACRN youth. And lastly, Rahma Bainah is the ACRN youth.

Mr. Speaker, the ACRN is dedicated to supporting the capacity development of the African-Canadian community in Saskatchewan in strategic areas such as public and business leadership. It also provides a platform for enhancing social and cultural connections within and outside the community. It was incorporated in September 2014, a result of two years of community-based research and collaboration that identified the need to establish an enduring organization that will support a diverse, growing, and dynamic African-Canadian community, all the communities in Saskatchewan.

The ACRN has implemented a two-year pilot project targeting visible minority women to bridge the gap in the labour market and remove the employment barriers faced by the visible minority women. In 2019-20 the ACRN also implemented a youth and community and children engagement project in Regina, Saskatoon, and Moose Jaw to help vulnerable African-Canadian youth and children succeed in life. Currently the ACRN is implementing a capacity-building project targeting visible black community-based organizations across Saskatchewan. It is also providing much-needed employment to young black youth.

Mr. Speaker, this group is another example of what makes Saskatchewan great and indicative of our motto, "from many peoples, strength." I'm going to ask, please join me and recognize the ACRN's contribution to our province and welcome them to their legislature.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Request leave for extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a tremendous honour to join the member opposite, the MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] for Coronation Park and my friend, in this very important introduction. And very nice words, apt words from the member to welcome the African-Canadian Resource Network and the leadership to their Assembly.

I've had the privilege of getting to know many of those folks and the leadership that are here today and the good work, the incredibly important work that they carry out in the community. And it's a pleasure to welcome them here today.

I want to highlight just a couple of those leaders: certainly their Chair, Abdi Gure, who's also a leader of the Prairie Somali Canadian association, the Chair of the ACRN. Abdi, it's wonderful to have you in your Assembly. Thank you for your leadership in so many ways throughout our community, and it's a pleasure to have you here. I'll identify one other leader up there as well. That's the executive director of ACRN, Ercoph Bongomin, that's here today. Also a leader in the South Sudanese Canadian community. It's a pleasure to have you here as well, sir, and all of the leaders that have joined us here today that do such important work.

These folks here are the epitome of community builders, Mr. Speaker. They support settlement within our province and extend hope and security and opportunity to so many, Mr. Speaker. They act in ways that enrich our communities through culture in an affirming way, and enriching our province. I simply can't say enough about these leaders and this organization, and on behalf of the official opposition it's my honour to welcome them to their Assembly.

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

Mr. Skoropad: — I request leave for an extended introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Mr. Skoropad: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, it gives me great pleasure to introduce and welcome here today two fine constituents of mine from Arm River, seated in the west gallery, Bob and Gladys. You know, Mr. Speaker, I'll be honest. I'm a little bit nervous about this introduction, more so than your average introduction here for myself, because the quality of this introduction will directly correlate to the quality of my life after this introduction.

Because I'll tell you, the two constituents here, they go over and above in my constituency. As a matter of fact, Bob's been known to snow blow and push out my own lane. And from time to time he'll sneak into the yard and even cut my grass, and from time to time they even haul out the garbage.

And you know, not to be outdone, Gladys will actually drop off baking from time to time, invite us over — my whole family and I, not just me — for a Sunday supper, and even cleans those hard-to-get-out stains out of my shirts. I will tell you, wonderful people.

And to go even over and above that, they will even drop off — Christmas, birthdays — presents, for myself and my whole family. And Easter. I don't know why you need gifts at Easter, but they even bring them at Easter. These are two extraordinary people, but also people that go by another name in my house.

This would be Mom, and that would be Stepdad right there.

So you know, last week, the member from Walsh Acres, he did a great introduction of his parents here. And it was just wonderful to hear the credit he gave his parents for how they shaped him and how they're responsible for how he turned out. Typically I agree with very much of what the member from Walsh Acres says, but maybe not in this regard. Because you see, Mom and Bob, they are just amazing people. And you know, Mr. Speaker, I just cannot blame them for how I turned out.

You know, and I want to say in this Assembly that I do not hold you responsible. I am not your fault. But you have been an endless support to me. I wouldn't be here right now without you, literally. I wouldn't be here without you and hopefully this doesn't impact, you know, getting an invite over for Sunday suppers. But with that I'd ask that all members welcome Mom and Bob to their legislature.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I'll ask for extended leave for an introduction.

The Speaker: — Leave has been requested for an extended introduction. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried.

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I want to take an opportunity to welcome a number of people. But I want to start out with introducing my CA, works in my office in La Ronge, takes such good care of people who have so many issues. We all talk about our CAs, how great of a job they are and the work they do. And I know back and forth, members have their own little way of doing that and introduce their CAs and the good work they do, but I truly am . . . This gentleman has become my family and is treated like family.

And that is extended family. Sometimes in the North, somebody will accept you and they'll invite you as part of their family. And Jude and his whole family has extended me his mom as their family. And I say to them, it's with much love and respect that I say, I appreciate everything you do for the people of the constituency that I'm honoured to serve. And you do your work so well with your passion, with your heart. When there's trouble, you're there. When it's to volunteer to help out in any community event, you're there doing that. And I want to thank you for that.

There's so many challenges that a person goes through in our office, and I know everybody has those. But I do, I just want you to know, on behalf of the good people of the Cumberland constituency, we want to thank you for the great work you do to serve all people. And it doesn't matter . . . One thing about Jude, he doesn't care which way your politics are; he just wants to help people. And that's what he . . . And I'm proud to say he makes sure he does that. And that's so important.

So I just want to say, Jude, thank you for being here. And again I hope the staff today spend time with you, showing you different things. You haven't had the opportunity to come here. It's a long

way to travel, and I'm glad that you got to come, and you know, have a little bit of a talk with some of the staff and learn some of the process here. So with that I will say thank you, and I just want to welcome you to your Legislative Assembly.

On that note, it's a sad time and it's a hard time. I also want to welcome Jude and Fran — his wife — Ratt who are here today to observe the proceedings today. They have lost their daughter in December of 2021 to a suicide. She had four children. I want to thank you for being here. I know your heart, your life was crashed. It crumbled. But just know many of us in the North support you, and we'll do all we can for you. Just know that. We shared some very sad days, hours, minutes, and shed some very sad tears and asked a lot of questions. And I'm so honoured that you're here with a number of other families who have lost loved ones to suicide.

I want to take this time to welcome Marilyn Irwin who lost her son to suicide. I just want to welcome you. Just know your presence here, your awareness, your advocacy that you've been doing for years since 2018 when you lost your son, I want to thank you for not giving up. And thank you for reminding me as a member of this Chamber never to give up. We have to work together. We have to continue to fight the fight. And when we can work together, we have to be able to do that. And I thank you for always saying that.

I also want at this time to welcome Chris and Wanda Ball who lost their 16-year-old son. I want to welcome you. You were here a while ago, and I'm so honoured that you have come today to watch the proceedings, to see what happens today, hoping. And you talk about that, that some good work could be done, and I'm hoping that will happen today, that you can all leave here knowing your advocacy, your work, the walks that you guys do, the awareness that you do so no other family has to suffer what you have gone through, you're trying to do all you can. I want to honestly thank you for that. I don't know many families who have the strength. And I watch you guys, and you have so much strength and heart.

And I just want to say, know that from my heart and my family, we are with you. My colleagues on this side, and I know the government side, you know, it's important to acknowledge. Many times I mentioned your name and the minister has said his condolences. And today you're here to watch the proceedings. I hope with that hope we can move together in a meaningful way as a province and maybe start the journey of healing that needs to happen so you can heal.

I just want to again thank you for coming and thank you for the great work you do. I ask all members to please thank these families. They've gone through so much and so many youth have suffered. And they are willing to make that stand and ask all of us to help with the good work that needs to continue to be done. So with that, I would just say welcome to your Assembly, and I ask all members to please join me in welcoming these families who have suffered so much.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Government Relations.

Hon. Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask leave for an extended introduction, but we've

already taken a half an hour for introductions.

I want to introduce three people from Milestone that are seated in your gallery, Mr. Speaker, in the front row. In the middle is Taya Wolfe. She is a summer student in my office, was a summer student last year and we're blessed to have her come back again this year. She is great. Great attitude. And you know, Taya is one that has been affected in a way with COVID in that she didn't get to have her graduation. And then her first year of university was closed off, part of it. Really kind of missed two very, very important milestones — from Milestone — milestones in her life, and we're so lucky to have her. She's working in my office as well as the minister of post-secondary education.

[14:00]

Seated on her left and right are Mr. and Mrs. Milestone. I would call them Mr. and Mrs. Milestone. If you've had anything to do with the community of Milestone, you would know Jim and Neta Monson. Neta is originally from Gray and has been around Milestone now for many years. Neta, a little bit like her granddaughter, worked in this building many years ago. I'm not going to say how many years ago, but I am going to tell you that it wasn't under the Sask Party, it wasn't under the NDP [New Democratic Party], and it wasn't under the Conservative Party. So that only leaves one other party that's governed this province. That's a little bit of a teaser for you.

But anyway, just really quickly about Neta, she was instrumental in setting up, for anybody that hasn't been out to Wilcox and gone through the Notre Dame archives, Père Athol Murray had a collection of books and artifacts that is second to none, I would say, anywhere in Canada. Neta put that whole thing together. And if you ever have 30 minutes, drive out to Notre Dame. The colleague beside me represents Notre Dame. But drive out to Notre Dame and have a look at those archives that Neta set up. It's just an amazing project.

And the last introduction is Jim Monson, who has been, you know, played ball, played hockey, all around great guy. He's helping the Notre Dame Hounds. He's actually heading out to Okotoks, I believe, as the midget teams are out there playing. And he's going to be heading out there right away to work with the teams, has done a lot of work on the training side of it, and actually got his start doing a bit of training for a senior hockey team that I played for in Milestone one time.

And just one really quick story. We were playing in Moose Jaw against the Generals and a guy came along the right wing and took a slapshot, hit me in the ankle, dropped me like a stone. I got up, limped to the bench. Laying on the bench and Jim starts working on my foot and says, I can't undo your skate because it will swell up. But you know, he's kind of massaging it and he said, how is that? And I said, it's really good, but it's my other foot, Jim.

Both Jim and Neta have been just instrumental in anything that's gone on around Milestone. It's a real treat to have you in the Assembly. Thank you. And I'd ask all my colleagues to welcome them to their Assembly.

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

Ms. Beck: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will not be giving an extended introduction, but I did want to get to my feet and welcome Jim and Neta to their Legislative Assembly. It was very nice to look up and see you here. Jim's farm was right across from our farm out between Lang and Milestone. And I will say this on the record: everything that the minister has said about these two is absolutely the case. So it's just a great thrill to see you here, and on behalf of the official opposition would like to invite all members to welcome you to your Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cannington.

Mr. D. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To you and through you, I'd like to welcome four friends today to your legislature from the Saskatchewan Lipedema Association. I welcome Erica Bailey from Prince Albert; Roxey Gordon from Strassbourg; constituents of mine, Dianne Wilson from Carlyle, and constituent Connie Young, also from Carlyle. So I'd ask all my colleagues to welcome them to their legislature today.

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

Ms. Mowat: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to briefly join with the member opposite in welcoming this delegation from the Sask Lipedema Association here to their Assembly today. We've had the chance to meet in the past. I appreciate the work that you're doing in advocating, in educating, and it's certainly encouraging to see that you're here today and being heard. So I would ask all members to join me in welcoming these fine individuals to their Legislative Assembly.

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

Hon. Ms. L. Ross: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to join with the Minister of Government Relations and welcome Taya Wolfe to her Legislative Assembly. Taya works in my office and in the Minister of Government Relations as a summer student. She's studying criminology at the University of Saskatchewan, and we're so pleased to have her. She's really just risen to the challenge. No matter what we ask her to do, she just steps right up and is more than willing and prepared to do a great job. So welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

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

Ms. A. Young: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not sure if this is done, but I did want to join in particular with the Minister for Government Relations in welcoming Neta. I heard what you shared about the rare book room out at Notre Dame. And just to share, when I first visited Saskatchewan — it would have been about 11, 12 years ago now — that was one of the first places that I was taken, and it was just an absolutely magical experience, such a delight. And the hard work that went into that was truly appreciated by me then and I've made sure to recommend it to everyone who asks me what there is to do in Saskatchewan, so thank you for that.

But you know, Mr. Speaker, one of the other things I think we agree on in this Chamber is the importance of family. And I'd

like to take a brief moment to welcome to this Assembly no stranger, my dad, Don who is seated in the east gallery up there, a filmmaker, traveller, raconteur, proud grandpa passing through again on his way from Alberta through to Winnipeg, visiting, maybe hopefully considering reversing some of that population flow and relocating here to the beautiful city this legislature calls home because, Mr. Speaker, I know I'd love that. I know my daughter would love that. And as I said, I think one thing we do all agree on in this Chamber is the importance of family and the opportunity that we're all so privileged to have to keep those people close.

So it's my honour and is always my privilege to welcome my dad, Don, to this Assembly.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

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

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise yet again today to present a petition calling on the Legislative Assembly to scrap Bill 70. Those who signed this petition wish to bring to our attention the following: the independence of security at the legislature is of great importance to Saskatchewan people; it is a long-standing parliamentary custom that security maintain independence by reporting to the Speaker; the Speaker has a constitutional duty to defend the privileges of the legislature and its members; the Sergeant-at-Arms has successfully maintained the security of the legislature and its grounds since the '80s.

Mr. Speaker, Bill 70 would turn the Sergeant-at-Arms into largely a ceremonial role, which breaches tradition in how issues of security at the legislature are handled. As you well know, Mr. Speaker, all security concerns historically have gone through the bipartisan Board of Internal Economy. It's very interesting to see government shut out other members from this discussion.

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 the Government of Saskatchewan to stop the passage of Bill 70, *The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act, 2021*.

The individuals signing this petition today come from Regina. I do so present.

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

Ms. Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm on my feet to present a petition I have not yet presented in this House. It's a petition calling on the government to restore the seniors housing subsidy. It is a petition that is very similar to the one presented by my colleague, the member for Saskatoon Eastview, yesterday about the Luther care home. And they're in Saskatoon, but this petition relates to many of the subsidized senior housing buildings here in Regina. And it's signed by many concerned seniors here in Regina who stand to lose their subsidized housing.

These are seniors on fixed incomes, Mr. Speaker, seniors who will have to leave the homes that they have established over

decades, potentially as a result of this cut, Mr. Speaker. The government of course scrapped the subsidized housing agreement with many of these buildings, and many seniors in Regina and indeed across the province are concerned about where that leaves them. It's just another example of this government really picking their moment, Mr. Speaker, of when to make life harder for those struggling the most during an affordability crisis.

So with that I will read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to immediately reverse the decision to eliminate subsidized housing for seniors.

The concerned citizens who have signed this petition reside in Regina. I do so present, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Love: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm honoured to be on my feet today to again present a petition calling for home supports for older adults in Saskatchewan. I've presented this petition a number of days throughout this session, and I think it's important to continue to inform the Assembly that these petitioners want us to know that older adults in Saskatchewan, as they always have, want to age in place in their own homes.

But especially at this time as we, you know, eventually will emerge from this pandemic, we can't go back to business as usual because business as usual was one of the things that contributed to a lot of tragedy throughout the pandemic. And so this is the right time to consider what other options are available and, quite frankly, what older adults are asking for.

On that note, Mr. Speaker, I want to note that the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism is hosting their annual conference on this exact topic starting tomorrow. That conference is entitled Home Supports: From Needs to Reality, taking place this Wednesday and Thursday. I think that's pertinent because, as it says in the prayer, that older adults want to age in place in their own homes and they're looking for a government that will work with them to make that a reality.

I'll read the prayer, Mr. Speaker:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call on the Government of Saskatchewan to work with older adults, stakeholders, and municipalities to design a home supports program that will allow seniors to age with dignity and autonomy in their homes and communities.

The petition today is signed by residents of Prince Albert and Sedley. I do so present.

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

Ms. Ritchie: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on my feet again today to present a petition calling on the government to protect

Saskatchewan's water supply and implement a credible wetland policy.

The undersigned wish to bring to your attention that Saskatchewan's lack of a wetland policy is adversely affecting water quality, and that significant work remains to be done to better regulate drainage in our province.

It's a well-known fact that the removal of wetlands through drainage reduces the capacity for water storage on the land and contributes to the magnitude and frequency of downstream flooding. These impacts will likely be exacerbated in the future as more intense weather events become increasingly common. Society loses valuable ecosystem services when wetlands are drained, and we all pay the costs resulting from increased flooding, aquatic nutrient pollution, and the loss of biodiversity.

It's more clear now than ever that wetlands play a crucial role in both the human health and overall health of our environment.

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan actively protect Saskatchewan waters from current and future threats to our valuable water supply.

This petition is signed by residents of Fort Qu'Appelle. I do so present.

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

Ms. Nippi-Albright: — miigwech, Mr. Speaker. The folks who signed this petition wish to bring to your attention the following: the provincial government must immediately stop selling off Crown land and leases and fix their broken duty-to-consult process. This government has been auctioning off Crown land and leases to the highest bidder. We only have 10 per cent of Crown land left.

They are breaching the treaty relationship. The first right of refusal needs to be offered to First Nations in the treaty land entitlement process. And I will also be tabling this letter dated May 12th from Kahkewistahaw regarding this government's failed duty-to-consult with that community.

I'll read the prayer:

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request that the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan call the Government of Saskatchewan to immediately stop the sell-off of Crown land, and work with First Nation and Métis communities to develop a new duty-to-consult framework.

The folks who signed this petition reside in Onion Lake. I do so present.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

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

Remembering Alex Pelletier

Ms. Conway: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to

recognize the passing of a great and beloved figure from Regina Elphinstone-Centre. Alex Pelletier had, in the words of my predecessor, Warren McCall, “the laugh of a pirate and a massive heart for the people.” He was well known in Regina as a cook, a storyteller, and a proudly two-spirited Métis man who felt deep pride for his community and his culture. His daughter Tobi describes him as a giver, someone so kind-hearted that he would “give anything to anyone at any time if they asked.”

[14:15]

I first learned about Alex about three years ago when I read a story about he, at age 67, was going to university to the first time. He explained that for too long he felt shame to be Métis, to be two-spirited, but that he was proudly embarking on a new journey to take back his identities and to learn more about his language — the Michif language — his culture, and his people’s history and to pass that on to the next generation, something he did with great passion until he passed earlier this month.

He also lived out his hope to mentor young people who might feel isolated and struggling with their own sexual and gender identities, Mr. Speaker. And it is no accident that I rise to recognize Alex today on the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia. While we have made progress, queer people still face injustice and discrimination.

So, Mr. Speaker, Alex loomed large in our community. He was loved, his loss is deeply felt by those who knew him, and his contribution was significant. His memory and the things he stood for will certainly live on in those he impacted. Thank you.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cannington.

Alberta Court of Appeal Decision on Bill C-69

Mr. D. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It appears common sense has prevailed at the Alberta Court of Appeal. C-69, the *Impact Assessment Act*, otherwise known as the no-more-pipelines bill, has been ruled unconstitutional. Under the Constitution, the provinces have extensive jurisdiction over the environment and the development of natural resources. And that, Mr. Speaker, makes Bill C-69 a major intrusion on provincial jurisdiction.

The *Impact Assessment Act* creates significant investor uncertainty. It unfairly targets the natural resource and energy industries with an array of new and subjective environmental and socio-economic project assessment criteria.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when Canadians are concerned about energy affordability, security, and independence, reckless policies such as Bill C-69 have a devastating impact on our ability to be the global leaders we could be. To date, no Saskatchewan-specific projects have met the threshold of the Act. However, the economic impact of dead projects such as Keystone XL and Energy East have been detrimental to the industry and the economy.

The government will continue to advocate for Saskatchewan’s natural resource industry and oppose the federal Liberal-NDP government’s overreach. And, Mr. Speaker, the province will be watching with great interest to see if the decision is appealed.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Recognizing Saskatoon Musician and Poet

Ms. Nippi-Albright: — miigwech, Mr. Speaker. I’m pleased to be on my feet to recognize a friend and artist who resides in my constituency, a musician who’s become a major part of the arts community of Saskatoon and across the world — Jay Semko. Jay was born and raised in Saskatchewan and began learning music in high school, playing in numerous rock bands throughout the years. Jay is well known as the lead singer who helped form the Northern Pikes.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Northern Pikes, Mr. Semko was awarded four gold records and one platinum, with sales of over 1 million units worldwide. Jay also released nine solo albums, firmly establishing himself as one of Canada’s premier songwriters. Jay has taken on a new project: *The Poetry & Lyrics of Jay Semko*. This book of poetry contains a selection of poems and song lyrics exploring Mr. Semko’s experiences with addiction, recovery, bipolar disorder, faith, spirituality, love, relationships, and the abstract realm. I ask all members to join me in recognizing and congratulating my friend, Jay Semko, as a musical artist and poet. miigwech.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Willowgrove.

Rare Earth Minerals Extraction Facility Planned for Saskatoon

Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Well thank you, Mr. Speaker. More good news, great news in fact. Vital Metals recently announced that the company has signed a funding agreement with PrairiesCan for \$5 million to help open a planned rare earth minerals extraction facility in Saskatoon.

Mr. Speaker, Vital Metals is Canada’s first rare earth producer, with production currently under way at their project site in the Northwest Territories. The funding will be administered under Canada’s Jobs and Growth Fund and will cover 32 per cent of the cost toward establishing operations and commissioning this important facility. The plant will process concentrate to produce a mixed rare earth carbonate.

With strong investments in our resource sector, Mr. Speaker, Saskatoon is ready to become North America’s central hub for rare earth processing and research. Mr. Speaker, let me quote Vital Metals’ announcement article on this:

Saskatoon is an ideal continental hub for this new industry, a vibrant and growing city with excellent transportation, educational, labour, regulatory, power, and support infrastructure for Vital’s rapidly growing supply chain.

The \$20 million rare earth extraction facility is set to create 40-plus new jobs of a technical nature. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Vital Metals for investing in Saskatchewan and helping us lead the way in resource and energy production. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Westview.

Saskatchewan Trucking Association Celebrates 85th Anniversary

Mr. Buckingham: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The year was 1937. Saskatchewan's population was about 900,000 people. These people were optimistic despite being in the depths of a global depression. Our province had so much to offer, even though there were only 132 miles of paved road and 2,400 miles of gravel.

Thanks to an energetic group of truckers lobbying to build a better road network, the Saskatchewan Motor Transport Association was born. From city hall to Ottawa, the group presented a united voice when dealing with various governments on issues such as deregulation and weights and measures. In the late 1950s, Mr. Speaker, the organization changed its name to the Saskatchewan Trucking Association, but they didn't change their mission of representing Saskatchewan trucking with strength, pride, and honesty.

This year the Saskatchewan Trucking Association celebrates its 85th anniversary. Mr. Speaker, without the guidance and lobbying of various governments by the STA [Saskatchewan Trucking Association], we would not have the highway network that we all enjoy today. This vital network of highways and roads helps us deliver the food that feeds the world and the fuel to energize it.

Please help me in thanking the Saskatchewan Trucking Association for the integral role they have played in building our province and for reaching their 85th anniversary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Excellence in Policing Award Winners

Mr. Lawrence: — Mr. Speaker, as part of National Police Week, I'd like to extend congratulations to the recipients of this year's Excellence in Policing Awards. I was honoured to attend a ceremony that was held May 10th to celebrate the winners in the following award categories.

The Leadership Award was presented to Sergeant Barry Bernard, RCMP "F" Division; Sergeant Tyler Buchanan, RCMP "F" Division; Staff Sergeant Erin Coates, Saskatoon Police Service; and Sergeant Kathy Edwardson, Prince Albert Police Service.

The Excellence in Performance Award was presented to conservation officer Edward Glass, provincial protective services; Detective Constable Shannon Parker, Saskatoon Police Service; and Sergeant Scott Thompson, Regina Police Service.

The Valour Award was presented to Constable Alanna Coghill, Moose Jaw Police Service; Constable Jacques Geyer, Moose Jaw Police Service; Constable Aaron Woods, Moose Jaw Police Service; and conservation officer Evan Michayluk, provincial protective services; and Sergeant Brock Lockhart, provincial protective services; Constable Alicia Hachey, RCMP "F"

Division; and Corporal Carmen Taylor, RCMP "F" and "D" Division.

And, Mr. Speaker, the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Chief Lennard Busch, File Hills First Nations Police. Mr. Speaker, I'd like everyone here to congratulate these award winners that keep us safe.

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

Update on Employment Numbers in Saskatchewan

Mr. Meyers: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today I am proud and happy to talk about our jobs numbers here in Saskatchewan. You see, the members opposite have not missed an opportunity over the last two years to talk down our labour market and the people of Saskatchewan. That is why it is important for us to set the record straight and get the facts out there.

In the labour force survey for April 2022, there are a lot of reasons for optimism here in Saskatchewan. Compared to April 2021, there were 18,000 more people employed in our province. Full-time employment was up 26,200. Private sector employment, up 8,100. Female employment, up 9,100. Youth employment, up 5,800. Indigenous employment, up 4,900. And, Mr. Speaker, Indigenous youth employment was up 2,900. April 2022 also saw all-time highs in employment for women and in Indigenous peoples, Mr. Speaker.

Now as we highlighted, and my colleague from Kindersley did this yesterday, Saskatchewan's economy is showing incredible strength in a number of areas. We're seeing billions of dollars in private sector investments that are flowing into our province. That means, Mr. Speaker, there are going to be even more opportunities for the people of our province, for the people of Canada, for people all around the world to move here and get jobs in Saskatchewan.

That is why this side of the House is extremely optimistic, Mr. Speaker. We'll focus on the facts. They can focus on their doom and gloom. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

QUESTION PERIOD

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

Provision of Mental Health Care

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently the Prime Minister of Canada requested a meeting with Tristen Durocher after Tristen had received an Indspire award in honour of his music and his advocacy for mental health.

Now I know antagonism for the Prime Minister is the Premier's personal brand, but you've got to recognize, he is a busy person. How is it that he was able to make time to meet Tristen during Mr. Durocher's brief visit to Ottawa, but the Premier couldn't find time to meet with him in the weeks he walked from La Ronge or the 44 days he fasted in Wascana Park?

What does that say? What does that say about a premier, that the

Prime Minister for whom he has so much disdain had time for Tristen, but he himself only had time to try to send the police with the message to “get off my lawn”?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, during that time there was a number of ministers that did meet with Mr. Durocher, and met with many others as well that have concerns with respect to mental health and, all too often, addictions in this province, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Mental Health and Addictions of the day — or minister of Rural and Remote he was at that point in time — the Minister of Social Services, and others met with Mr. Durocher, Mr. Speaker.

In many ways all of those conversations that our ministers have, that our MLAs have, Mr. Speaker, have an impact on the about half a billion dollars in annual funding that we provide into the area of mental health, addictions, Mr. Speaker. And it's that funding that we saw being enhanced again on this budget day of this year, Mr. Speaker, again over an enhancement last year, understanding there's so much more work to do in this area.

There is more conversation for us to have, Mr. Speaker, and work collaboratively across this province and across this nation, yes, Mr. Speaker, on providing the supports that individuals, that family members, and that families ultimately require.

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

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, it was an extremely disappointing response to Mr. Durocher and a disappointing response to that question. It doesn't have to be this way. There are many issues, there are many issues on which the Premier and I disagree. But he and his caucus have told us that when it comes to mental health and addictions, they care; that more needs to be done; and that they recognize that.

The Premier will have a chance to show today whether that's true. With 800 kids on the wait-list to be seen and only a single child psychiatrist in Prince Albert providing services for the entire North at a time when suicide remains the leading cause of death for young people, psychiatrists are pleading for help.

Is it acceptable to the Premier that half the psychiatric in-patient beds in Prince Albert are closed because there aren't enough docs? Is it acceptable that there are no community psychiatrists in Regina accepting patients right now? Is it acceptable to him that people in crisis are being turned away when they need care?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Well, Mr. Speaker, this is most certainly why you are seeing a continued investment in this budget, Mr. Speaker. And it was talked about on the floor of this Assembly yesterday and some of the action items that are behind the four-point plan, Mr. Speaker, to recruit medical health care professionals into this province. And we do need to intensify our efforts to recruit and retain all medical health professionals in this province, Mr. Speaker.

[14:30]

With respect to physicians and psychiatrists in particular, Mr. Speaker, we've said many times we have over 1,000 additional physicians that are practising in Saskatchewan in communities right across Saskatchewan. I see that in communities that I serve, Mr. Speaker. Specific to psychiatrists, we're up about 38 per cent from where we were when we took government.

But, Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition raises a very important point: we need more. We do have positions, and I said this in the media yesterday. We have positions that are open across this province that are already funded, and we need to ensure we are intensifying our efforts to recruit for those positions.

And as we move ahead, in particular in this area of mental health, Mr. Speaker, psychiatric service, we are likely going to need more individuals in addition to the ones that we already have allocated, Mr. Speaker. You're seeing a commitment to funding these types of initiatives in this budget, Mr. Speaker — close to half a billion dollars in the mental health and addictions area, Mr. Speaker.

But I would just say this is a challenge that is not specific to Saskatchewan. This is a challenge that we're seeing across the nation, and it's one that's top of mind in our calls with the premiers across the nation.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's all well and good to try to attract physicians, but this is a premier who has been driving Saskatchewan doctors away.

Child and youth psychiatrist Dr. Randy Zbuk is alone caring for kids in Prince Albert, and it's a struggle. He has serious concerns about his ability to do his job. He says, and I quote:

... it's been miserable at best in terms of providing care and shortening that gap. We are not fulfilling our obligations whatsoever. [He goes on to say] ... we're at an absolute crisis level.

This, Mr. Speaker, is how we lose good people, the way we've lost Dr. Masri and many others, by putting them in situations that are neither sustainable nor safe. Right now things aren't working and it's getting worse. What concrete measures will the Premier put in place to keep the mental health professionals we have and improve access to psychiatric care at a time when that care is so needed?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition speaks to an area of the province that I know very well, Mr. Speaker, and there are some challenges in that area of the province. The Minister of Mental Health and Addictions has met with Dr. Zbuk, I believe two days ago if I'm not mistaken, as to what we can do to support the folks in that area, people that I know that live in that area that do require this service.

The fact of the matter is, is that across the province we have increased the number of psychiatrists and psychiatric care that we have. But we need more, Mr. Speaker, today, and we need

more as we look into the future. And again I say this is not a challenge that is specific to the province of Saskatchewan.

And so what have we done in the area of mental health and addictions funding, Mr. Speaker? We've increased it. We've worked with community-based organizations where we can. We've increased the training seats that we have available, most notably those for psychiatric nurses which the members opposite, when in government, cut, Mr. Speaker. There was no psychiatric nurses being trained in the first half of the decade of 2000, Mr. Speaker. We reinstated that program, Mr. Speaker, that training program here in the province.

And we're going to continue to look at and to converse with, for example, Dr. Zbuk and as well as others, Mr. Speaker, as to what we can do to ensure that we are attracting people into this province, we are training people and recruiting them into this province, Mr. Speaker. And once they're here, we're doing what we can to retain their services.

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

Suicide Prevention Strategy

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reality of today is that there's nowhere for people to turn, nothing between a wait-list and the emergency room. And all we hear from this government is, don't worry about it. We've got everything under control.

Well it certainly doesn't feel under control to families like Chris and Wanda Ball, like Jude and Frannie Ratt, like Marilyn Irwin — folks who are with us today, families who faced the unimaginable pain of losing a child to suicide.

There are many things that divide us, Mr. Premier, but some issues that should bring us together. We saw some hope for that when the member for Cumberland's bill was passed a year ago, but that hope has withered. Later today the Premier will have another opportunity to support more serious action in addressing the mental health and addictions crisis in this province. Will he take that chance to show that his concern is more than empty words? Will he join us in offering hope to the families who are struggling today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, let me first offer, on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, our condolences to those families that have experienced the loss, the ultimate loss of a family member and of a child, Mr. Speaker. And we offer our most heartfelt condolences to each of you.

Mr. Speaker, with respect to this, and this is precisely where some of the initiatives led by the Minister of Mental Health have led us, Mr. Speaker, is we do have some formal mechanisms for families, all families across the province, Mr. Speaker, to provide input into our Pillars for Life, our suicide prevention strategy here in the province, Mr. Speaker. And that is through the strategic planning and oversight team, Mr. Speaker.

And I would ask the families that have joined us today — and any other families across the province — to please engage with

this team as they are guiding and informing where the Pillars for Life strategy will go in the days ahead. This is the formal mechanism for engagement on where the province is going to address, Mr. Speaker, our suicide strategy in Saskatchewan.

There are other ways to engage as well, Mr. Speaker: through respective MLAs, through the minister, who I know has met with a number of families, Mr. Speaker. But this structure is set up so that we can have direct input, in particular direct input from those families that unfortunately have lived experience in this area, Mr. Speaker, to guide the government's suicide prevention strategy.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All session I have risen on behalf of the Saskatchewan families who are struggling — for families who have lost loved ones. I wrote the minister yesterday, requesting we come together and strike a special committee on mental health and addictions crisis. I will seek leave to move a motion later today. Will this government grant leave?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Hon. Mr. Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I, too, will welcome Chris and Wanda back to their Legislative Assembly, who I've had the opportunity to meet with previously. And also Jude and Fran and Marilyn who are here today, Mr. Speaker. This is very difficult, I'm sure, for you in particular but for each and every one of us who's had a family member or community member that has lost their life tragically to suicide.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as the Premier had indicated, there are a number of existing mechanisms in place right now through the strategic planning and oversight team, through the Pillars for Life suicide prevention plan, Mr. Speaker, which consists of a number of officials from various ministries of the provincial government: Health, Education, Advanced Education, Social Services, Corrections. Also, Mr. Speaker, the SHA [Saskatchewan Health Authority], the coroner's office, are also part of this committee. But most importantly, Mr. Speaker, we have patient and family partners who are part of that oversight team.

And further to what the Premier has said, I would offer to help facilitate some meetings between the families that are here today — any families that reach out to us — with the oversight team to have these very important and worthwhile conversations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, I'm moving a motion to strike an all-party special committee on the mental health and addictions crisis in Saskatchewan to talk to families, to stakeholders, and experts, to get to the bottom of this crisis. The minister has said he wants to work together in the past. Here's an opportunity. Will the minister commit to striking a special committee today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Hon. Mr. Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that each and every one of us in this Chamber recognizes that this is not a political issue. This is why, you know, we have experts engaged and why we have a number of existing committees, whether it's the strategic planning and oversight team from Pillars for Life, whether it's the letter of commitment table with the FSIN [Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations], the Ministry of Health, the SHA, Indigenous Services Canada, Mr. Speaker, a number of other subcommittees and working groups and cross-ministerial tables that already exist, Mr. Speaker.

And you know, as part of that I think just as importantly is the consultation that we as MLAs do, and that we do outside of this Chamber. In the next few days, we will be returning to our constituencies to spend more time there on a more frequent basis. And I know that as the minister responsible, I've had the opportunity to meet with a number of families in communities across this province already. And I fully intend to be continuing to do that work, as I know all MLAs across this province will be doing that in the months and weeks ahead, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — I recognize the member from Cumberland.

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, we are joined today by Chris and Wanda Ball, Marilyn Irwin, and the Ratt family, all who have lost their children to suicide. They know the current plan isn't working, Mr. Speaker. People are dying. It's an emergency, and in an emergency we need a response that treats it like one.

Can you give these families a single reason why government and opposition shouldn't work together to tackle this emergency? It's a simple question: will the minister support the special committee? Yes or no?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Hon. Mr. Hindley: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated previously, we have a number of existing committees that are doing very good work on this file, this very important issue. And this is, as the Premier had also indicated, is not something that is unique to this province, and provinces and territories across this country struggling with finding ways to address this challenge when it comes to suicide prevention, Mr. Speaker.

There have been significant, I think, initiatives that have been undertaken thus far, but we do know that there is additional work that needs to be done. And I think it's important to recognize that the work that has been done by those on the front lines and those who have committed their time to a number of these initiatives, whether it's, you know, being part of Mobile Crisis or the police and crisis teams, walk-in counselling, community recovery teams, Roots of Hope, Mr. Speaker. These are just a number of some of the initiatives that are already existing in this province.

But as I said previously, Mr. Speaker, we know that we're going to . . . that there's more work that needs to be done on this file. And we're going to continue to engage with people, as we do as MLAs across this province, in the weeks and months ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Affordability and Cost of Living

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Today across Saskatchewan, the average fill at the pumps is over \$100, Mr. Speaker, much more for many others as gas prices have skyrocketed to nearly two bucks a litre, not just a few cents as this Premier's tried to dismiss it as.

This government already understated soaring resource revenues in the budget. Today WTI [West Texas Intermediate] is over \$112 a barrel, and this out-of-touch government has dismissed any calls to ensure Saskatchewan people see a fair return on windfall profits. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker: this government has the fiscal capacity to act and to support people that are just trying to make ends meet.

Mr. Speaker, when might we see something — anything — to help Saskatchewan people out with the skyrocketing cost of fuel and cost of living?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, that question again has been asked before, and the answer will remain the same. We will monitor our revenues as we proceed into the months of this budget. We're about, I believe, about six weeks into this budget. And yes, he is indeed correct. The resource revenues are strong, and we'll see if that remains. And we'll be making decisions as we have more data later on in the budget.

But, Mr. Speaker, it's interesting that they're still talking about the relief at the pumps, when the NDP candidate in Ontario now is saying that that is a really bad idea. Should the NDP win, they would reverse it. So the NDP there didn't agree with it. The NDP in Alberta didn't agree with it. And the NDP in BC [British Columbia] did exactly what we did in this province.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Memo to the Finance minister: this is Saskatchewan. The people of the province are facing skyrocketing costs. Many are showing up at the pumps with just 10 or \$20, just to put enough in to get from point A to point B. Gas has been over a buck fifty for over 10 weeks, now at a record buck eighty-seven a litre.

Meanwhile government revenues and industry windfall profits have been sent soaring over those 10 weeks, with oil well over 90 bucks a barrel, and today WTI's at \$112 a barrel. But in those 10 weeks, all we've seen from this government are excuses and no actions. And in fact what we've seen is the indefensible — a government piling on with 32 new taxes and hikes on the people of Saskatchewan.

[14:45]

Will this government finally recognize the error in their ways, recognize how out of touch they are with Saskatchewan people, and provide some relief for people just trying to make ends meet?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Well let's just talk about the NDP in

Saskatchewan for a minute, Mr. Speaker, the NDP that don't like pipelines and do support a carbon tax, quite frankly. And so why do we have inflation, Mr. Speaker, high inflation? It's because of high energy costs, Mr. Speaker. High energy cost is because of the carbon tax and the lack of pipelines, Mr. Speaker. And the carbon tax and lack of pipelines is because Justin Trudeau is Prime Minister. And Justin Trudeau is still the Prime Minister because of the NDP.

Maybe they need to talk to their federal cousins and say to them that the carbon tax is not a good idea. This is what the prices are being driven to. They're going to stay higher each and every year that the carbon tax is increased. And this is what we're going to face as long as the NDP is propping up Justin Trudeau.

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

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, you know, the minister knows that's not the case. We'll stand up for Saskatchewan every day of the week regardless of who the Prime Minister is, Mr. Speaker.

People need and deserve affordability relief now, folks that are breaking the bank just to fill the tank. While the cost of gas and food and necessities skyrockets, the Sask Party's solution is to slap on new taxes, hikes, and utility increases. They couldn't be more offside if they tried, Mr. Speaker. Will this government finally listen and support our plan to provide cost-of-living relief today?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Finance.

Hon. Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Speaker, as I have said a number of times, we have reduced the cost of living and have affordability measures in this budget and in each and every budget. That's savings year over year over year in income tax, in the tax credits that's available for a number of situations.

In this particular budget, there's additional support for low-income seniors, Mr. Speaker. There's additional support for families because of a reduction in child care costs . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . It's interesting that we never heard from the member from Saskatchewan Rivers the whole time she sat in the government caucus, and now she's got a lot to say. It's very interesting that now she finally found her voice.

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

Coverage for Cochlear Implants

Ms. Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community was left hanging when this government scrapped the hearing aid plan without warning in 2017. Many lost supports that they rely on, and many lost their audiologists as they moved to greener pastures. That includes Rod Rossmo, who is in your gallery today, Mr. Speaker. In 2021, Rod received a letter from Cochlear Americas, the company that produces the cochlear implants. In the letter, they stated that he would need to upgrade equipment. Without this replacement, Rod will no longer be able to hear.

To the minister: will you meet with Rod to work with him to support his ability to maintain his hearing?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Merriman: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I welcome Rod to his Assembly. I'd be more than happy to meet with him after.

But Mr. Speaker, our government has done some amazing work with cochlear implants on the initial costs of that. We've also done screening for infants that we announced a few years ago in the budget to be able to make sure that children that were born right in the hospital had that initial screening.

And I remember Nairn from the Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing was outside saying — he was almost in tears, Mr. Speaker — saying that this government has saved lives with its Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

So Mr. Speaker, we have done some work on that. I disregard what the member opposite said, and I'd be more that happy to meet with the individual after. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Mowat: — Mr. Speaker, the upgrade he needs costs upwards of \$23,000. We are in an affordability crisis, Mr. Speaker. People are struggling to put gas in their tanks, put food on their tables, and to pay their bills. The Deaf and hard-of-hearing community continues to experience discrimination in our province, and it should not be made worse by this government. Health technology such as pacemakers and prosthetics are covered provincially. As this technology wears out, why would the government not consider this as a similar requirement for Rod's health?

Will the minister commit to covering the cost of required upgrades to cochlear implant equipment for Rod and others who need it?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister of Health.

Hon. Mr. Merriman: — Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I already did mention to the member that I'd be more than happy to meet, as we always do on this side if somebody's brought to the Assembly or somebody contacts our constituency office or contacts our office here. We're more than happy to meet with individuals, Mr. Speaker. As far as the replacement cost, this is something that I'll have to look into, the specifics of it, Mr. Speaker.

But again, what I did say, Mr. Speaker, is we have moved great ways in our Saskatchewan Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities. I've met with them personally, Mr. Speaker, several times in Saskatoon, attended a few of their functions, Mr. Speaker, and we do have a great working relationship and we'll continue to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Suicide Prevention Strategy

Mr. Meili: — Mr. Speaker, under our previous premier, this

legislature has had special committees on things such as organ donation, nuclear power, traffic safety, the lobbyist registry — important issues. But we're talking about a mental health and addictions crisis, something as crucial as preventing suicide, and this government is refusing even a debate on the need for a special, all-party committee. What a slap in the face to the survivors who are here with us today who have made it clear that that kind of committee would make a big difference, a big difference to healing and to preventing further loss.

To the Premier, to the Premier: will he stand up and give the folks in the gallery one good reason why we shouldn't have a special committee? Or will he simply confirm what so many Saskatchewan people are saying — that he simply does not care?

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, I'm going to ignore the entire preamble of that question. This is a very serious conversation, Mr. Speaker, and I think one that families that have joined us here today, as well as families from across the province, would like to join in to provide input, Mr. Speaker. And we are looking to seek that input. That's why, Mr. Speaker . . . not only that input, but very effective input that will have impact on this conversation.

So what I would like to do today is to encourage the families that have joined us and other families across Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker, to reach out. We have put together a strategic planning and oversight . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — I recognize the Premier.

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, this is the committee, not politicians, this is the committee that is been forming, again guiding the work of our Pillars for Life strategy, Mr. Speaker, which is the suicide strategy, the suicide prevention strategy for the province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. This is the committee that I would encourage families across this province to participate in.

The input that is provided to this committee is impactful, Mr. Speaker. It will guide where the province is going with our Pillars for Life strategy into the future. Mr. Speaker, there are other options — engaging with MLAs, engaging with the minister as well, Mr. Speaker — but this committee is the most impactful way that we can provide input, that families across Saskatchewan can provide input in the . . .

[Interjections]

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

Hon. Mr. Moe: — Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions put this committee of professionals together specifically for this reason. It should be professionals that are guiding the work of the government and are informing the Pillars for Life strategy in this province, Mr. Speaker. That's what we've put together, Mr. Speaker, and that's what we're asking families to engage with.

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: — State your point of order.

POINT OF ORDER

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — Yeah, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, points of order arising out of question period. The members opposite have been launching vile personal attacks, vile personal attacks from the Leader of the Opposition. The member for Elphinstone continues yelling from her seat as well, Mr. Speaker. The members opposite have been launching . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Well I see the member for Sask Rivers showed up for work for the first day . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Don't counter with another personal attack. Make your point of order and we'll move on.

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — Mr. Speaker, I'm trying to put my point of order. It's hard when you can't hear yourself talk though, to put . . .

[Interjections]

The Speaker: — Order.

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — Mr. Speaker, personal attacks, vile personal attacks from the members opposite across the floor, Mr. Speaker, these have been ruled out of order over and over and over again. Everybody in the Chamber heard the Leader of the Opposition in particular, determined to go out with the same lack of class with which he entered, Mr. Speaker, in his final three days in this Assembly, Mr. . . .

The Speaker: — House Leader, you're making your point by attacking the other side. Make your point of . . . Are you done? Is there anything new in this? Make your point of order.

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition needs to stand in his place, withdraw, and apologize as he does basically every day in this Chamber.

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

Mr. Meili: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the minister managed to break a number of rules in his own point of order, not to mention not give a single example of any such attack, I urge you to review the record and give a ruling.

The Speaker: — I will.

PRESENTING REPORTS BY STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker: — I recognize the Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Mr. Wotherspoon: — Mr. Speaker, I'm instructed by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to present its second

report which reflects the work of the committee for the period December 1st, 2020 to May 17th, 2022. As Chair, I want to thank all of those that were involved in this important work. I move:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be now concurred in.

The Speaker: — It has been moved by the Chair:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be now concurred in.

Is the Assembly ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

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

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

MOTION UNDER RULE 61

Special Committee to Address Mental Health and Addictions

Mr. Vermette: — Mr. Speaker, before orders of the day, I seek leave under rule 61 to move a motion to set up a special committee on mental health and addictions crisis.

The Speaker: — Will the member briefly state the purpose of the motion and read the text of the motion?

Mr. Vermette: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a serious crisis in our province when it comes to mental health and addictions. So many families have suffered the loss of loved ones to the addiction, to mental health, and suicide. I'm just hoping — and that's all I can say, I hope — the members, government will allow the process to happen and we can work together in a meaningful way. And there'll be more to say I guess after we see. And I'm hoping and I have hope, so I'm prepared. I'll actually read the motion.

The motion will seek to create a special committee on the mental health and addictions crisis in Saskatchewan, and it reads as follows:

That a special committee on the mental health and addictions crisis be created to examine Saskatchewan's suicide rates, the addictions and the overdose crisis, and the wait times for mental health and addictions services and treatment in the province; and further,

That the committee will engage with community stakeholders, families, and experts to assess the issue and propose solutions.

The Speaker: — The member for Cumberland has requested leave to move without notice a motion of urgent and pressing necessity under rule 61. Is leave granted?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: — No.

The Speaker: — Leave has not been granted. Next item of business.

[15:00]

ORDERS OF THE DAY

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Speaker: — I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to order the answer to question 34.

The Speaker: — Question 34 has been ordered. Government Whip.

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the answer to question 35 and 36.

The Speaker: — 35 and 36 has been tabled. I recognize the Government Whip.

Mr. Ottenbreit: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to order the answer to question 37.

The Speaker: — Ordered, question 37.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 86 — *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation (Outdoor Public Places) Amendment Act, 2022/Loi modificative de 2022 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard (lieux publics extérieurs)*

The Speaker: — I recognize the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege to rise for second reading of Bill No. 86, *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2022*. This bill proposes a change to *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act*. This change would allow municipalities, regional park authorities, provincial parks, and the governing bodies such as Wascana Park, Meewasin Valley, and Wakamow Valley the discretion to designate outdoor public spaces where the consumption of beverage alcohol can occur.

Mr. Speaker, over the course of the pandemic we have seen several communities allowing or expanding alcohol consumption in public places throughout the country. This has occurred in communities throughout British Columbia and cities in Alberta to give their citizens a chance to get outside and visit with friends and family.

This amendment will provide local authorities throughout Saskatchewan the discretion to allow this opportunity for

Saskatchewan residents in the beautiful outdoor spaces of our province. Mr. Speaker, I believe communities throughout this province know their citizens, know their public spaces, and know their resources. This knowledge places them in a good position to make decisions around alcohol consumption in public spaces.

In proposing these amendments, Mr. Speaker, we recognize that in some cases, for example Meewasin Valley in Saskatoon, parks are located within a municipality. Knowing that issues with over-consumption could impact Saskatoon in that situation, the Act will require co-operative efforts between the parks and municipalities in situations such as this.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that members of the opposition in the past, I believe last summer, Mr. Speaker, have publicly commented in favour of such a change. Mr. Speaker, this could be in place for this summer with the co-operation of the opposition in facilitating the introduction and passage of Bill 86 in short order.

Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill No. 86, *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation (Outdoor Public Places) Amendment Act, 2022* be now read a second time.

The Speaker: — It has been moved that Bill No. 86, *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation (Outdoor Public Places) Amendment Act, 2022* be now read a second time. Is the Assembly ready for the question? I recognize the member from Regina Douglas Park.

Ms. Sarauer: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise today and enter into the debate on this bill, and I thank the minister for providing some further comments in his second reading speech.

Mr. Speaker, since this discussion began on this issue about a year ago from both sides of the Assembly, we've heard some strong opinions both for and against, Mr. Speaker. And since government introduced this legislation only yesterday, we have been reaching out to stakeholders, specifically municipal stakeholders, Mr. Speaker. Those who have spoken so far have been pretty clear that they want to make sure that this legislative process is done thoughtfully and carefully, Mr. Speaker. In order to facilitate further conversations with stakeholders at this time, I'm prepared to move an adjournment on this bill.

The Speaker: — The member has moved to adjourn debate. Is it the will of the House to adjourn debate?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

Hon. Mr. J. Harrison: — I move that this House do now adjourn.

The Speaker: — Before I accept that motion, we have a CPA [Commonwealth Parliamentary Association] AGM [annual general meeting]. It will take place immediately following adjournment. It won't take very long. So is it the pleasure of the Assembly to adopt the motion of adjournment?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Speaker: — Carried. We now stand adjourned till tomorrow at 1:30.

[The Assembly adjourned at 15:05.]

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

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President of the Executive Council
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

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Minister of Highways
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