



No. 12

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FOURTH SESSION – TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, April 2, 2003

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following Members: Elhard, Stewart, Eagles, Weekes and Allchurch.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Deputy Clerk having favourably reported on the same pursuant to Rule 12(7), the following Petitions were read and received:

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take immediate action and make necessary repairs to Highway 22 in order to address safety and economic concerns.

(Sessional Paper No. 27)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit its share of funding for a new regional hospital in Swift Current.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 5)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take the necessary steps to ensure current Crown land lessees maintain their first option to renew those leases.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 12)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take immediate action and make necessary repairs to Highway 47 South in order to avoid serious injury and property damage.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 13)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take the necessary steps to have Sask. Crop Insurance reverse the 2003 premium increases and restore affordable crop insurance premiums to our struggling farmers.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 18)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to make the necessary repairs to Highway 42 in the Arm River Constituency in order to prevent injury or loss of life and to prevent the loss of economic opportunity in the area.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 19)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately reinstate a reasonable Annual Deductible amount for Prescription Drugs in Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 21)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to influence to stay the closure of Major School until the Departments of Rural Revitalization and Education can put together a plan on a uniformed front for rural Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 23)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 8 to 13, they were answered. (See Appendix)

BUDGET DEBATE

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Melenchuk, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Calvert:

That this Assembly do now resolve itself into the Committee of Finance.

and the proposed amendment thereto moved by Mr. Krawetz, seconded by Ms. Julé:

That all the words after the word "Assembly" be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

expresses its non-confidence in the current government's 2003-2004 provincial budget which is based on absurd economic growth predictions and revenue transfers from empty bank accounts and further increases the provincial debt by nearly half-a-billion dollars, and; that this Assembly calls for the resignation of the Minister of Finance for the deliberate leak of specific budget items to the media prior to the presentation of the budget to this Assembly.

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, it was on motion of Mr. Prebble, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED

The following paper was laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Cline:

Amendments to the Bylaws of the following Professional Associations:

Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 26)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 8, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Junor:

To the Minister of Learning: How much funding did Pre-kindergarten programs receive in fiscal year 1998-1999?

Answer:

The Department of Learning provided \$1,069,796 for 26 pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 9, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Junor:

To the Minister of Learning: How much funding did Pre-kindergarten programs receive in fiscal year 1999-2000?

Answer:

The Department of Learning provided \$1,256,996 for 31 pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 10, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Junor:

To the Minister of Learning: How much funding did Pre-kindergarten programs receive in fiscal year 2000-2001?

Answer:

The Department of Learning provided \$1,938,672 for 44 pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 11, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Junor:

To the Minister of Learning: How much funding did Pre-kindergarten programs receive in fiscal year 2001-2002?

Answer:

The Department of Learning provided \$3,385,156 for 79 pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 12, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Junor:

To the Minister of Learning: How much funding did Pre-kindergarten programs receive in fiscal year 2002-2003?

Answer:

The Department of Learning provided \$3,756,990 for 85 pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Brkich asked the Government Question No. 13, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Serby:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) What is the total amount of money deducted from 2002 farmer claims regarding the grasshopper control penalty? (2) Further to that, how many producers were assessed a penalty in 2002? (3) Also, what was the criteria for assessing grasshopper penalties in 2002 and were these grasshopper control penalties assessed to organic grain growers last year?

Answer:

- (1) Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) applied uninsured causes of loss totalling \$607,319 for insect damage in 2002.
- (2) 278 producers had uninsured causes of loss assessed to part of their claim in 2002 related to insects.
- (3) An uninsured cause of loss was assessed in 2002 related to damage by grasshoppers if SCIC determined that a producer did not take reasonable control measures. Reasonableness is determined based on use of information that was available to the producer, or could reasonably be expected to be available, and the actions of other producers in the area as a benchmark.

The 2002 Grasshopper Forecast Map and area experience were used as guides. SCIC determined that producers in the high to moderate risk areas of the province were generally monitoring their crops and did apply control measures. Therefore, if a producer was in these areas and did not apply a control measure, SCIC determined that part of the loss was uninsurable. The uninsurable amount would be determined based on the ability to assess damaged versus undamaged areas, or using proxy approaches such as reducing the claim by the equivalent cost that other insured producers in the area expended in controlling their risks. In most cases, the latter approach was used, resulting in a deduction of approximately \$7.35 per acre, as the average cost of one control application. Depending on the individual circumstances however, additional amounts could have been assessed.

An appeal mechanism is available whereby producers who disagree with SCIC's decisions can present their concerns to an independent Appeal Panel, acting as a jury of peers, who then make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

For organic producers SCIC also considered the recommended cultural control methods that are published and available versus the steps taken by the producer. A total of 20 organic producers were assessed with an uninsured cause of loss due to insects.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Question was given notice on day no. 9 and is to be answered by day no. 14:

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 37:

To the Minister responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) What is the policy for SaskPower regarding the policy for fighting fires caused by the failure of power transformers, power lines, power poles and related equipment? (2) Are these costs the responsibility of SaskPower where it is clear its equipment has caused the blaze? (3) Further to that, in 2002, how many claims were made against SaskPower and were the claims honoured?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 10 and are to be answered by day no. 15:

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 38:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) How many municipalities (cities, northern municipalities, rural municipalities, resort villages, towns and villages) applied to have projects approved under the Canada Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program (CSIP) in the fiscal year 2001-2002? (2) Could the Minister please provide the names of the communities that applied for CSIP projects in the fiscal year 2001-2002? (3) Could the Minister please provide the types of projects these communities applied for in the fiscal year 2001-2002? (4) Could the Minister please provide the names of the communities who had their CSIP projects approved in the fiscal year 2001-2002?

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 39:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) How many municipalities (cities, northern municipalities, rural municipalities, resort villages, towns and villages) applied to have projects approved under the Canada Saskatchewan Infrastructure Program (CSIP) in the fiscal year 2002-2003? (2) Could the Minister please provide the names of the communities that applied for CSIP projects in the fiscal year 2002-2003? (3) Could the Minister please provide the types of projects these communities applied for in the fiscal year 2002-2003? (4) Could the Minister please provide the names of the communities who had their CSIP projects approved in the fiscal year 2002-2003?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 40:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Early Childhood Intervention Program receive in the fiscal year 1998-1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 41:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Early Childhood Intervention Program receive in the fiscal year 1999-2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 42:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Early Childhood Intervention Program receive in the fiscal year 2000-2001?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 43:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Early Childhood Intervention Program receive in the fiscal year 2001-2002?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 44:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Early Childhood Intervention Program receive in the fiscal year 2002-2003?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 45:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the HeadStart program receive in the fiscal year 1998-1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 46:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the HeadStart program receive in the fiscal year 1999-2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 47:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the HeadStart program receive in the fiscal year 2000-2001?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 48:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the HeadStart program receive in the fiscal year 2001-2002?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 49:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the HeadStart program receive in the fiscal year 2002-2003?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 11 and are to be answered by day no. 16:

Mr. Wall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 50:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: Were managers at the Regina Correctional Facility warned by guards as to the danger of holding inmates in the auditorium from which recent inmate escapes occurred?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 51:

To the Minister of Learning: In reference to the \$32.4 million to be expended under the Education Infrastructure Financing Corporation in 2003-2004, what is the split between K-12 and post-secondary capital projects and what is the amortization rate under this program for these projects?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 52:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Kids First program receive in the fiscal year 2001-2002?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 53:

To the Minister of Social Services: How much funding did the Kids First program receive in the fiscal year 2002-2003?

The following Question was given notice on day no. 12 and is to be answered by day no. 17:

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 54:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) How many Crown land leases are there currently in Saskatchewan? (2) And, further to that, how many total quarter sections of Crown Leased land are there right now in Saskatchewan?

NOTICE REGARDING PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Rules 64 and 67 of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, that the time for filing Petitions for Private Bills with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly will expire on the twentieth sitting day, and that the time for presenting Petitions for Private Bills to the Legislative Assembly at its present Session will expire on the twenty-fifth sitting day of the said Session.

GWENN RONYK
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
