



No. 55

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FOURTH SESSION – TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, June 10, 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: Draude, Gantfoer, Elhard, Stewart, Harpauer, Eagles, Bakken, Wall, Huyghebaert, Dearborn, Hart, Van Mulligen and Harper.

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 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 take necessary action to provide the people of Moose Jaw and district with a hemodialysis unit for their community.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 36)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to repair Highway 49 in order to address safety concerns and to facilitate economic growth in the area.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 41)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to repair Highway 20 from Nokomis to Strasbourg in order to address safety concerns and to facilitate economic growth in rural Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 119)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to repair Highway 43 in order to address safety concerns and to facilitate economic growth in rural Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 120)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to reconsider its plan to allocate the used CT scanner to Swift Current and instead provide a new CT scanner for the southwest.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 124)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to construct a new cellular telephone tower at Coleville, Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 126)

REPORT OF THE PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS COMMITTEE

Ms. Hamilton, Chair of the Standing Committee on Private Members' Bills, presented the Tenth Report of the said Committee, which is as follows:

Your Committee has considered the following Bill and has agreed to report the same with amendment:

Bill No. 301 – The Western Christian College (Amendment) Act, 2003

And further, that the fees respecting Bill 301 be remitted to the petitioners, less the cost of printing.

(Sessional Paper No. 136)

On motion of Ms. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Dearborn:

Ordered, That the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Private Members' Bills be now concurred in.

SPEAKER TABLES REPORTS

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the following:

The Annual Report of the Provincial Ombudsman, in accordance with the provisions of section 30 of *The Ombudsman and Children's Advocate Act*, for the year 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 137)

The Annual Report on Operations of the Office of the Provincial Auditor, in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of *The Provincial Auditor Act*, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 138)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 710 to 714, and 716 they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question No. 715, pursuant to Rule 43(1), the answer was Tabled and by reason of its length, converted by the Clerk to Return No. 391.

(Sessional Paper No. 139)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Motion No. 8, it was moved by Ms. Draude, seconded by Mr. Dearborn:

That this Assembly recognizes the unreasonable burden put on the shoulders of property owners in the province due to the provincial government's offloading of the cost of education onto the local tax base and further recognizes that Saskatchewan's high property taxes harm our province's competitiveness and ability to grow economically.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Mr. Dearborn, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 4:58 p.m. until Wednesday 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 Association:
Saskatchewan Real Estate Commission

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 26)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 710, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Osika:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) Why was it necessary for Wascana Gaming to develop a new cash and paper management system for SLGA and bingo halls? (2) How is this cash and paper management system different from the system Wascana Gaming had developed years prior to the Mega Bingo contract?

Answer:

- (1) The operation of bingo halls involves the selling of bingo cards and properly accounting for payments received for those cards. This is referred to as cash and paper management. The bingo industry has long standing processes in place to manage and account for cash and paper. The intention was to use linked bingo revenues to fund an electronic cash and paper management system that would help the industry enhance its efficiency and accountability in managing cash and paper.
- (2) One of the most significant differences was that Wascana Gaming's existing system required the use of special bingo paper developed specifically for Wascana Gaming's system. Saskatchewan's bingo halls, and most bingo halls elsewhere, use "cut sheet" bingo paper. Wascana Gaming needed to redevelop its existing system to accept "cut sheet" paper.

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 711, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Osika:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: With reference to the fact that Wascana Gaming pays a royalty to Western Canada Lottery Corporation if it sold the software developed for Mega Bingo, what are the details of this royalty agreement between SLGA and Wascana Gaming?

Answer:

Wascana Gaming is required to pay the Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC), Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority's agent, a royalty equal to the greater of 50% of gross revenue or \$155,000 on each sale of the software. Once \$2,000,000 in royalties have been paid, Wascana Gaming is required to pay a royalty equal to the greater of 25% of gross revenue or \$155,000 on each sale of the software.

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 712, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Osika:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: In light of the fact that the SLGA never received a cash and paper management system from Wascana Gaming, for what reason did Wascana Gaming receive \$291,000?

Answer:

Initial development work on an electronic cash and paper management system.

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 713, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Osika:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: What are all the details of the royalty agreement between Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming and Wascana Gaming for the cash and paper management system paid for but never received by Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming, such agreement referenced by the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming in the Legislative Assembly on June 2, 2003?

Answer:

If software development had been completed, Wascana Gaming would have been required to pay the Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC), Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority's agent, a royalty equal to the greater of 50% of gross revenue or \$170,000 on each sale of the software. After \$2,000,000 in royalties had been paid, Wascana Gaming would have been required to pay a royalty equal to the greater of 25% of gross revenue or \$170,000 on each sale of the software.

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 714, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) What was the cost incurred by Morsky construction in fall 2002 to repair and prepare for winter Highway 13 between Ogema and the Highway 334 turnoff? (2) Who paid this bill, the original contractor or the Department of Highways?

Answer:

- (1) The total cost for the work completed by Morsky Construction Ltd. was \$75,538.
- (2) The Department of Highways and Transportation paid Morsky Construction Ltd. for completing this work. In 2003, the department expects to re-coup approximately that amount from savings as work on the Anderson Rental & Paving contract continues. In addition we are collecting liquidated damages for late completion from Anderson.

Mr. Brkich asked the Government Question No. 716, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) Can the Minister please say if construction for repaving the section of highway 42 from the junction of highway 2 to the junction of highway 19 will begin in 2003? (2) If yes, is the work scheduled to be completed in 2003?

Answer:

- (1) No, work will not start in 2003.
- (2) Not applicable.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 52 and are to be answered by day no. 57:

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 718:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) What is the total assessment of agricultural Crown land? (2) Further to that, what is the average quarter section assessment of this same land?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 719:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) What is the total assessment of non-agriculture Crown land that is south of the North Administrative District? (2) Further to that, what is the average quarter section assessment of this same land?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 720:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) Does your department stock the fish in provincial lakes with so many fry per poundage removed? (2) If not, why?

Mr. Wall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 721:

To the Government of Saskatchewan: (1) Why was the security against the SBLA loan to Jacqueline Currie of MILOS for \$2,000 discharged in 1996 when the loan payments were \$1,057 in arrears? (2) What officials at SEDCO and/or SOCO authorized the discharged of the security? (3) Did the government or any agencies of the government request the full payment that was eventually made on the loan on April 28, 2003?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 53 and are to be answered by day no. 58:

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 722:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) For the year 2002, what is the total amount of money collected in Saskatchewan through the education portion of the property tax? (2) Of this total, how much was collected for each of commercial property, agricultural property and residential property? (3) Are there any other classifications of property for taxation purposes? If so, how much is collected on each of these classifications? (4) Are rental properties, such as apartment buildings, classified as residential or commercial property? (5) If such properties are classified as residential properties, how much of the total education tax collected on residential property is collected on these types of rental properties and how much is collected from homeowners living in their own homes? (6) What are the projections for each of these classifications (commercial, agricultural, residential and others) as to how much will be collected in the year 2003?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 723:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For the year 2002, what is the total amount of money collected in Saskatchewan through the education portion of the property tax? (2) Of this total, how much was collected for each of commercial property, agricultural property and residential property? (3) Are there any other classifications of property for taxation purposes? If so, how much is collected on each of these classifications? (4) Are rental properties, such as apartment buildings, classified as residential or commercial property? (5) If such properties are classified as residential properties, how much of the total education tax collected on residential property is collected on these types of rental properties and how much is collected from homeowners living in their own homes? (6) What are the projections for each of these classifications (commercial, agricultural, residential and others) as to how much will be collected in the year 2003?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 724:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) For the year 2002, what is the total amount of money collected in Saskatchewan through the education portion of the property tax? (2) Of this total, how much was collected for each of commercial property, agricultural property and residential property? (3) Are there any other classifications of property for taxation purposes? If so, how much is collected on each of these classifications? (4) Are rental properties, such as apartment buildings, classified as residential or commercial property? (5) If such properties are classified as residential properties, how much of the total education tax collected on residential property is collected on these types of rental properties and how much is collected from homeowners living in their own homes? (6) What are the projections for each of these classifications (commercial, agricultural, residential and others) as to how much will be collected in the year 2003?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 725:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What is the current funding for the methadone program? (2) Who administers this program? (3) What locations is methadone available under this program? (4) What are the criteria for receiving methadone under this program? (5) What is the cost to the person receiving methadone under this program? (6) What portion of the cost is paid for by the Department of Health and/or other government departments?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 54 and are to be answered by day no. 59:

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 726:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: How does Wascana Gaming Inc. own the software developed for the SLGA's Mega Bingo in light of the fact that RFP (WCLC reference #621-97) Section 23 refers to intellectual property rights?

Mr. Wiberg, to ask the Government the following Question No. 727:

To the Minister of the Environment: How many pickup trucks did your department purchase in fiscal year 2002-2003 and, further to that, what companies or dealerships were these vehicles purchased from and what was the purchase price per vehicle?

Mr. Wiberg, to ask the Government the following Question No. 728:

To the Minister of the Environment: How many pickup trucks did your department purchase in fiscal year 2001-2002 and, further to that, what companies or dealerships were these vehicles purchased from and what was the purchase price per vehicle?

Mr. Wiberg, to ask the Government the following Question No. 729:

To the Minister of the Environment: How many pickup trucks did your department purchase in fiscal year 2000-2001 and, further to that, what companies or dealerships were these vehicles purchased from and what was the purchase price per vehicle?

Mr. Wiberg, to ask the Government the following Question No. 730:

To the Minister of the Environment: How many pickup trucks did your department purchase in fiscal year 1999-2000 and, further to that, what companies or dealerships were these vehicles purchased from and what was the purchase price per vehicle?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 55 and are to be answered by day no. 60:

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 731:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: In light of the fact that comments made by the Minister of Liquor and Gaming in the Legislature on April 9, 2003 during Oral Questions contradict (RFP (WCLC reference #621-97) Section 12 which refers to "supplier expertise" and which stated "WCLC is not an expert in the work and therefore will rely in the skill, expertise and judgement and representation of suppliers", who made the decision to present Wascana Gaming Inc. to the SLGA for a final decision in RFP-621-97?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 732:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 2002? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 733:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 2001? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 734:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 2000? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 735:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 1999? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 736:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 1998? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 737:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 1997? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 738:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: (1) Did any Saskatchewan Crown Corporation pay Touchstar System Inc. anything for supplying any goods or services in 1996? (2) If so, how much was paid, by which company, and for what service?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 739:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, can the Minister provide all donations and grants given out by SGI?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 740:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, can the Minister provide all donations and grants given out by SaskEnergy?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 741:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, can the Minister provide all donations and grants given out by SaskTel?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 742:

To the Minister of Crown Investments Corporation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, can the Minister provide all donations and grants given out by SaskPower?

Mr. Hart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 743:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) How many multi-peril crop insurance contracts does Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation project it will carry in 2003? (2) What is the projected liability attached to these contracts?