



No. 63

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FOURTH SESSION – TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Friday, June 20, 2003

10:00 a.m.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following Members: Eagles, Wall, Harper, Huyghebaert, Dearborn, Hart and Allchurch.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the 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 urge the provincial government to take all possible action to cause a reduction in the education tax burden carried by Saskatchewan residents and employers.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 35)

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 take the necessary steps to ensure continuation of the current level of services available at the Kindersley Hospital and to ensure the current specialty services are sustained to better serve the people of West Central Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 100)

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)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government of Saskatchewan and the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan to assure the people of Saskatchewan that deregulation and privatization of the electrical industry in Saskatchewan, including SaskPower, will not be allowed.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 140)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the provincial government to do everything in its power to work with First Nations people and the federal government to bring a prompt end to the dispute so that the water level of the Qu'Appelle River system can return to normal and end the economic harm and uncertainty this dispute has caused.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 141)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 751 and 752, they were answered. (See Appendix)

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Finance to consider Estimates for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Lautermilch:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 12:48 p.m. until Monday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ms. Draude asked the Government Question No. 751, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) Did the Minister purchase the speed limit sign that he donated to charity recently from the Department of Highways? (2) If so, how much did he pay for the sign? (3) Can any citizen of the province buy a similar sign?

Answer:

- (1) No, the Minister did not purchase the sign from the Department of Highways and Transportation. Mr. Scott Kirk from Signal Industries Ltd. donated the sign.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Yes, citizens can buy a similar sign from sign manufacturers.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 752, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Crofford:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: (1) Could the Minister please provide an explanation for the process for allocating taxpayers dollars for the production of the Toronto, Ontario program "Designer Guys"? (2) Further to that, how much Saskatchewan taxpayers' dollars have been allocated for this production?

Answer:

- (1) The Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit (SFETC) legislation was introduced in 1998. SFETC is equal to 35% of the qualified Saskatchewan labour cost with a bonus credit (5% of production costs) for production activity located more than 40 kilometres from Regina or Saskatoon. Clients of the program use the SFETC to complete financing of projects for which they will eventually earn a credit. Earned credits would be applied against Saskatchewan corporate taxes payable, with any excess amount to be paid directly to the production company.

Applicants must have a permanent establishment in Saskatchewan, be incorporated in Canada (either federally or provincially), be a taxable Canadian corporation, and be producing an eligible film.

The production of Designer Guys is produced by WestWind Pictures. WestWind Pictures is an independent film and television company located in Regina and is incorporated in Saskatchewan.

The SFETC for the production of Designer Guys was only paid on qualified Saskatchewan labour costs for positions such as the producer, director, editor and postproduction activity.

- (2) The SFETC certificates for these productions were issued in 2002. However, the specific SFETC information cannot be released because it contains information that could result in financial loss or gain and prejudice the competitive position of the SFETC recipient. Information of this nature is exempt from access according to Section 19 (1) (c) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

NOTICE OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

On Tuesday:

Mr. Stewart to move the following Motion:

That this Assembly directs the Standing Committee on Agriculture to meet weekly throughout the month of July, 2003 to monitor issues related to BSE, should the Assembly stand adjourned at that time, and that, if the US border is not re-opened to Canadian beef exports by August 1, 2003, that this Assembly reconvene on August 5, 2003 to receive a report on the BSE issue from the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Yates to move the following Motion:

That this Assembly vigorously support Saskatchewan workers in their current campaign to educate the public on the harmful economic and social consequences of a privatized retail liquor industry in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Wall to move the following Motion:

That this Assembly recognizes that losses incurred by Crown Corporations on their risky foreign investments have a negative impact on the General Revenue Fund due to lower crown dividend payments and therefore Saskatchewan taxpayers have foregone general revenue for the original investment and any losses should be considered losses to the taxpayers since they may result in increased fees, charges and debt to Saskatchewan people.

Mr. Iwanchuk to move the following Motion:

That this Assembly recognize the efforts of the government over the years in working with people with disabilities to provide employment opportunities, improve transportation and accessibility, and advance the full citizenship of people with disabilities.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 60 and are to be answered by day no. 65:

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 759:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) What regulations are in place to control the use of hazardous chemicals in oilfields? (2) Further to that, whose job is it to police these regulations?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 760:

To the Minister of the Environment: Is there any review by your department under way into the regulations surrounding controlled chemicals?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 761:

To the Minister of the Environment: Are department employees trained to handle chemicals being used in oilfields?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 762:

To the Minister of the Environment: Is the Minister looking into biotechnology alternatives in the oilfields that are environmentally friendly?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 61 and are to be answered by day no. 66:

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 763:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) Has SERM made any decision to relocate the 13 burrowing owls in captivity in Moose Jaw? (2) If not, what level is the decision making process at right now?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 764:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) Has your office received any complaints regarding “quad” ATV riders at Nesslin Lake recreation site? (2) If so, what enforcement action is being taken?

Mr. Wall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 765:

To the Minister of the Crown Investments Corporation: Will the Minister detail the cost in the year 2002 and purpose of the SaskTel hot air balloon?

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 766:

To the Minister of Health: Within the catchment area of the Humboldt Hospital, how many people travelled to Saskatoon or other centres for renal dialysis in the year 2002?

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 767:

To the Minister of Health: Within the catchment area of the Humboldt Hospital, how many people travelled to Saskatoon or other centres for renal dialysis in the year 2001?

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 768:

To the Minister of Health: Within the catchment area of the Humboldt Hospital, how many people travelled to Saskatoon or other centres for renal dialysis in the year 2000?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 769:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of oil that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 770:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of oil that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 771:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of oil that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 772:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of natural gas that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 773:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of natural gas that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 774:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: Could the Minister please provide the percentage of natural gas that is drilled in Saskatchewan and that subsequently went to the United States in the calendar year 2000?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 62 and are to be answered by day no. 67:

Mr. Hillson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 775:

To the Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission: For the year 2003, what is the number and percentage of visible minorities in management positions with the Public Service?

Mr. Hillson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 776:

To the Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission: For the year 1993, what was the number and percentage of visible minorities in management positions with the Public Service?

Mr. Hillson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 777:

To the Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission: For the year 2003, what is the number and percentage of visible minorities employed with the Public Service?

Mr. Hillson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 778:

To the Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission: For the year 1993, what was the number and percentage of visible minorities employed with the Public Service?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 779:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: (1) What is the current status of the deepening of Wascana Lake in Regina? (2) When is the project expected to begin and when will it finish? (3) Further to that, what is the provincial government's contribution to this project?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 780:

To the Minister of the Environment: What action is being taken by your department regarding current low water levels at Codette Lake?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 781:

To the Minister of the Environment: (1) Are Saskatchewan Regional Parks allowed to borrow money from banks? (2) If not, please explain why?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 63 and are to be answered by day no. 68:

Ms. Julé, to ask the Government the following Question No. 782:

To the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs: (1) How many status Indians are presently registered within Saskatchewan? (2) How many non-status Indians are there in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 783:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) During fiscal year 1999-2000, when then SIGA CEO took many out-of-province trips at SIGA's expense, did any of the individuals now sitting on the SGIA Board, the current SIGA CEO, any other current employee of SIGA, any current Members of the Legislative Assembly, or any current employees of SLGA of on any of these trips? (2) If so, who went, where did they go and for what reason?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 784:

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: (1) How many employees are at 800 Central Avenue in Prince Albert? (2) Further to that, what percentage of 800 Central Avenue in Prince Albert do Environment and Resource Management occupy? (3) As well, what percentage is moving to the new Forestry Centre in Prince Albert?

Mr. Hillson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 785:

To the Minister of the Environment: In the view of the extremely dry conditions in the north west part of the province, will the Government open Wildlife Habitant Lands to temporary grazing by local ranchers?