



No. 3

# VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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**Monday, March 22, 2004**

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: Hamilton, Elhard, D'Autremont, Krawetz, Draude, Hermanson, Bjornerud, Wakefield, McMorris, Eagles, Gantefer, Harpauer, Bakken, Huyghebaert, Allchurch, Brkich, Dearborn and Hagel.

## READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Deputy Clerk having favourably reported on the same pursuant to Rule 14(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 not to implement the Commission on Financing Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education's recommendation to expand the Provincial Sales Tax to include restaurant meals.

(Sessional Paper No. 47)

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.

(Sessional Paper No. 48)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to work with First Nations people and the federal government to bring a prompt end to the Qu'Appelle Valley Lakes 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.

(Sessional Paper No. 49)

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. 50)

### **REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSE SERVICES**

The Speaker, Chair of the Standing Committee on House Services, presented the First Report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee recommends the composition of the Standing Committees of the Assembly pursuant to Rule 124(2) as follows:

#### **Public Accounts**

Borgerson	Hagel	Hart	Hermanson
Krawetz	Trew	Yates	

#### **Human Services**

Bakken	Borgerson	Cheveldayoff	Crofford
Hagel	Junor	Morgan	

#### **Economy**

Hamilton	Higgins	Huyghebaert	Merriman
Lautermilch	Stewart	Yates	

#### **Crown and Central Agencies**

Addley	Chisholm	D'Autremont	Elhard
Iwanchuk	McCall	Sonntag	

#### **Intergovernmental Affairs and Infrastructure**

Allchurch	Bjornerud	Harper	Morin
Trew	Wartman	Weekes	

(Sessional Paper No. 51)

On motion of Mr. Gantefer, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That the First Report of the Standing Committee on House Services be now concurred in.

**SPEAKER TABLES REPORTS**

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the following:

Members' Accountability and Disclosure Reports for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2003, pursuant to Directive No. 22 of the Board of Internal Economy.

(Sessional Paper No. 52)

Financial Statements for the New Democratic Party Caucus for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 53)

Financial Statements for the Saskatchewan Party Caucus for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 54)

Financial Statements for the Office of the Independent Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 55)

End of Term Financial Statements for the Office of Independent Members of the Legislative Assembly for the period ended October 1, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 56)

End of Term Financial Statements for the Saskatchewan Party Caucus for the period ended November 4, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 57)

**MOTION PURSUANT TO RULE 49**

Leave of the Assembly having been granted, pursuant to Rule 49, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Calvert, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Cline:

That this Legislative Assembly extend appreciation to Dr. Thomas J. Courchene for his recent research and publication, "Confiscatory Equalization: The Intriguing Case of Saskatchewan's Vanishing Energy Revenue" which has provided important and respected validation of arguments in Equalization that Saskatchewan has been making for many years; and

That this Legislative Assembly express grave concerns that given the federal government's recent actions and their commitment for future review, Saskatchewan will continue to be significantly disadvantaged in Equalization in comparison to the Provinces of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; and

That this Legislative Assembly confirm the position of the Province of Saskatchewan that fairness and equity in the treatment of resource revenues must be integrated into the Federal Equalization program similar to fiscal arrangements with Newfoundland-Labrador and Nova Scotia; and further

That the Premier meet with the Prime Minister as soon as possible to seek a solution that will provide Saskatchewan with fair and equitable treatment within the Equalization Program and, thus, within the federation itself.

A debate arising, it was moved by Mr. Krawetz, seconded by Mr. Wall, in amendment thereto:

That the following words be added after the words “within the federation itself”:

But, that the Assembly recognizes that the Equalization formula in itself is not the primary reason for the current financial difficulties being experienced by the provincial government and will not be used as an excuse for past or current budget deficits.

The debate continuing and the question being put on the amendment, it was negatived on the following Recorded Division:

#### YEAS – 26

Wall	Elhard	Heppner	D'Autremont	Krawetz
Draude	Hermanson	Bjornerud	Stewart	Wakefield
Morgan	McMorris	Eagles	Gantefoer	Harpauer
Bakken	Cheveldayoff	Huyghebaert	Allchurch	Brkich
Weekes	Kerpan	Merriman	Hart	Dearborn
Chisholm				

#### NAYS – 28

Calvert	Addley	Lautermilch	Hagel	Van Mulligen
Atkinson	Cline	Sonntag	Crofford	Prebble
Forbes	Wartman	Belanger	Higgins	Thomson
Nilson	Beatty	Hamilton	Junor	Harper
Iwanchuk	McCall	Quennell	Trew	Yates
Taylor	Morin	Borgerson		

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

**ADDRESS IN REPLY**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Ms. Morin, seconded by Mr. Borgerson:

That an Humble Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

TO HER HONOUR THE HONOURABLE LYNDA M. HAVERSTOCK  
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Saskatchewan, in Session assembled, humbly thank your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present Session.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Trew, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

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The Assembly adjourned at 4:55 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

***Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky***  
***Speaker***

## NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Wednesday:

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, to move First Reading of Bill No. 1 - The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Quennell, to move First Reading of Bill No. 2 - The Power Corporation Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, to move First Reading of Bill No. 3 - The Certified Management Consultants Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, to move First Reading of Bill No. 4 - The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, to move First Reading of Bill No. 5 - The Saskatchewan Pension Annuity Fund Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, to move First Reading of Bill No. 6 - The Superannuation (Supplementary Provisions) Amendment Act, 2004

Hon. Mr. Sonntag, to move First Reading of Bill No. 7 - The Automobile Accident Insurance Amendment Act, 2004

## NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 2 and are to be answered by day no. 7:**

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, what was the average cost of total reconstruction for one (1) kilometre of secondary weight or thin membrane road in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 2:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, what was the average cost of repairs for one (1) kilometre of secondary weight or thin membrane road in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 3:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, what was the average cost of total reconstruction for one (1) kilometre of primary weight or heavy haul road in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 4:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: For the fiscal year 2002-2003, what was the average cost of repairs for one (1) kilometre of primary weight or heavy haul road in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 5:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in the fiscal year 1995? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 6:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 1996? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 7:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 1997? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 8:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 1998? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 9:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 1999? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 10:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 2000? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 11:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 2001? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 12:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 2002? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 13:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures were in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 2003? (2) Further to this, were department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures were taken during that same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 14:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) What procedures are in place to process the equalization formula in fiscal year 2004? (2) Further to this, are department officials aware of the federal government's 100 percent clawback recently identified in Thomas Courchene's IRRP report? (3) If so, what measures have been taken during this same fiscal year to correct the discrepancy?

**The following Question was given notice on day no. 3 and is to be answered by day no. 8:**

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 15:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) Have the assessments for pasture lands for 2003-2004 been adjusted in relation to the emergence of the BSE case in May of 2003? (2) If not, why not? (3) What measures are being considered to offset this?

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#### **NOTICE REGARDING PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Rules 75 and 78 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

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