



No. 10

# VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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Wednesday, March 31, 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: Toth, Trew, Elhard, McMorris, Harpauer, Bakken, Huyghebaert, Brkich, Dearborn, Hart, and Wall.

## 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.

(Addendum to 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 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.

(Addendum to 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 fund the Unity and District Seniors Lodge Project to ensure that citizens of Unity and District remain in the community for this necessary service that will bridge the gap between independent living and long term care.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 65)

### **WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 22 - 24, they were answered. (See Appendix)

### **TABLING OF ESTIMATES AND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES**

The Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen delivered a message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor which was read by the Speaker as follows:

March 31, 2004

The Lieutenant Governor transmits Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending March 31, 2005 and Supplementary Estimates of certain sums required for the service of the Province for the twelve months ending March 31, 2004, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

LYNDA M. HAVERSTOCK  
Lieutenant Governor

(Sessional Paper No. 71)

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, seconded by Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That Her Honour's Message, the Estimates and Supplementary Estimates, be referred to the Committee of Finance.

### **BUDGET MOTION**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, seconded by Mr. Hagel:

That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

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

**MOTION TO RESUME BUDGET DEBATE**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, seconded by Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That debate on the motion “That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government” be resumed on Thursday, April 1, 2004.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

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The Assembly adjourned at 3:12 p.m. until Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

*Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky*  
*Speaker*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Mr. Dearborn asked the Government the following Question No. 22, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:**

To the Minister of Justice: How much has the provincial government spent so far having government lawyers defend the Minds Eye Entertainment financial restructuring plan?

Answer:

The Department of Justice has not been involved in the restructuring plans for Minds Eye Entertainment.

**Mr. Dearborn asked the Government the following Question No. 23, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Beatty:**

To the Minister of Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: Please advise when the paintings of former Premiers Roy Romanow and Grant Devine will be hung in the legislative building.

Answer:

It is customary to wait a number of years after a former premier has left electoral politics in the province before their official portrait is hung in the Legislative Building. There are no plans yet for the unveiling of Mr. Romanow's portrait. The Office of Protocol and Honours has been in contact with Mr. Devine to determine a date which is convenient for him and his family.

**Mr. Dearborn asked the Government the following Question No. 24, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: What studies are being undertaken by your department regarding the potential effects of the completion of the Brazilian Super Highway by 2007 on bulk commodity prices and the corresponding effect on farmers' incomes in Saskatchewan?

Answer:

No studies have been undertaken on this issue.

## NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 7 and are to be answered by day no. 12:**

Mr. Dearborn to ask the Government the following Question No. 34:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: (1) How much money was paid to Phoenix Advertising for the Future is Wide Open Campaign? (2) What was their commission?

Mr. Elhard to ask the Government the following Question No. 35:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: What research was done to justify the lower hourly rate SGI is now proposing to Saskatchewan auto body shops as compensation for paint work?

Mr. Wakefield to ask the Government the following Question No. 36:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For the year 2000, what were the dates of all meetings between provincial finance officials or the Minister of Finance and the federal government, dealing specifically with the problems with the federal equalization formula detailed recently by Professor Thomas Courchene? (2) What was the nature of any correspondence between the provincial finance department and the federal government on this specific issue? (3) Will you table that correspondence?

Mr. Wakefield to ask the Government the following Question No. 37:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For the year 2001, what were the dates of all meetings between provincial finance officials or the Minister of Finance and the federal government, dealing specifically with the problems with the federal equalization formula detailed recently by Professor Thomas Courchene? (2) What was the nature of any correspondence between the provincial finance department and the federal government on this specific issue? (3) Will you table that correspondence?

Mr. Wakefield to ask the Government the following Question No. 38:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For the year 2002, what were the dates of all meetings between provincial finance officials or the Minister of Finance and the federal government, dealing specifically with the problems with the federal equalization formula detailed recently by Professor Thomas Courchene? (2) What was the nature of any correspondence between the provincial finance department and the federal government on this specific issue? (3) Will you table that correspondence?

Mr. Wakefield to ask the Government the following Question No. 39:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For the year 2003, what were the dates of all meetings between provincial finance officials or the Minister of Finance and the federal government, dealing specifically with the problems with the federal equalization formula detailed recently by Professor Thomas Courchene? (2) What was the nature of any correspondence between the provincial finance department and the federal government on this specific issue? (3) Will you table that correspondence?

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 8 and are to be answered by day no. 13:**

Mr. Hart to ask the Government the following Question No. 40:

To the Minister of Labour: In the year 2000, what was the total cost of office renovations for the Workers' Compensation Board, including design, labour, furniture purchases or rentals, and art purchases or rentals?

Mr. Hart to ask the Government the following Question No. 41:

To the Minister of Labour: In the year 2001, what was the total cost of office renovations for the Workers' Compensation Board, including design, labour, furniture purchases or rentals, and art purchases or rentals?

Mr. Hart to ask the Government the following Question No. 42:

To the Minister of Labour: In the year 2002, what was the total cost of office renovations for the Workers' Compensation Board, including design, labour, furniture purchases or rentals, and art purchases or rentals?

Mr. Hart to ask the Government the following Question No. 43:

To the Minister of Labour: In the year 2003, what was the total cost of office renovations for the Workers' Compensation Board, including design, labour, furniture purchases or rentals, and art purchases or rentals?

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

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: How much money was spent in the 2003/2004 budget year for decorative art purchases in government office buildings and Crown Corporation buildings?

Mr. Brkich to ask the Government the following Question No. 45:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) Who is the Chair of the Provincial Mediation Board for tax enforcement, as well as the members of the Board? (2) Further to this, what are the official Board policies when it comes to handling tax enforcement cases in a timely manner?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 46:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1991?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 47:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1992?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 48:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1993?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 49:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1994?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 50:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1995?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 51:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1996?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 52:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1997?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 53:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1998?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 54:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 1999?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 55:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 2000?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 56:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 2001?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 57:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 2002?

Mr. Huyghebaert to ask the Government the following Question No. 58:

To the Minister of Environment: What were the names of the people drawn to receive big game licenses, including mule deer, white tail deer, antelope, elk and moose for the year 2003?

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 9 and are to be answered by day no. 14:**

Mr. Hermanson to ask the Government the following Question No. 59:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) How many customers have subscribed to SaskTel's "MAX TV" service from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003? (2) And, as well, what was the total number of MAX TV subscribers on January 1, 2003 as well as December 31, 2003? (3) Further to this, what was the total number of MAX TV subscribers that have disconnected services between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2003?

Mr. Gantefer to ask the Government the following Question No. 60:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How much of the \$79.3 million provided by the federal government in 2003 under the First Minister's Accord on Health Renewal was spent on diagnostic and medical equipment in the year 2003? (2) What were the specific purchases in each Health Authority?

Ms. Draude to ask the Government the following Question No. 61:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) How many lawsuits have been brought forward by First Nations against the provincial government to reclaim tax money used for gasoline and purchases on reserves after the provincial government altered its taxing scheme? (2) How many of those lawsuits have been settled, and for how much? (3) How many lawsuits remain, and what is the total amount of money being sought for by First Nations?

Ms. Draude to ask the Government the following Question No. 62:

To the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs: (1) How many lawsuits have been brought forward by First Nations against the provincial government to reclaim tax money used for gasoline and purchases on reserves after the provincial government altered its taxing scheme? (2) How many of those lawsuits have been settled, and for how much? (3) How many lawsuits remain, and what is the total amount of money being sought for by First Nations?

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

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 63:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 1998-1999, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 64:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 1999-2000, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 65:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 2000-2001, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 66:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 2001-2002, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?



Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 67:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 2002-2003, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 68:

To the Minister Responsible for Immigration: (1) For the fiscal year 2003-2004, what was the maximum number allowed under the Provincial Immigrant Nominee Program? (2) What was the total number of applications received that year? (3) How many applications received approval?

Mr. McMorris, to ask the Government the following Question No. 69:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) In the Regina area, what was the fee paid by the Coroner's office to "Spectrum Transfer Company" per transfer done in 2001? (2) Is this contract tendered? (3) If not, why not?

Mr. McMorris, to ask the Government the following Question No. 70:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) In the Regina area, what was the fee paid by the Coroner's office to "Spectrum Transfer Company" per transfer done in 2002? (2) Is this contract tendered? (3) If not, why not?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 71:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: How much money did the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority spend in the 2002-2003 fiscal year on freight costs to ship alcohol to each of the 81 SLGA-operated liquor stores in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 72:

To the Premier: Will the Premier ensure that men and women of Saskatchewan serving in the Canadian Armed Forces in theatres of conflict such as Afghanistan, Bosnia, Haiti and the HMCS Toronto serving in the Persian Gulf receive full income tax exemption similar to federal income tax exemptions for such persons?

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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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