



No. 13

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Monday, April 5, 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: Elhard, Hermanson, Huyghebaert, Brkich, Dearborn, Hart and Trew.

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 take the necessary steps to ensure current Crown land lessees maintain their first option to renew those leases.

(Addendum to 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 repair Highway 43 in order to address safety concerns and to facilitate economic growth in rural Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 69)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government 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. 73)

INTRODUCTION OF BILL

The following Bill was received, read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time at the next sitting:

Bill No. 201 – The Whistleblower Protection Act

(Mr. Morgan)

SPEAKER TABLES REPORT

Messages from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor communicating the membership of the Board of Internal Economy dated November 22, 2003, December 17, 2003 and April 1, 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 75)

MOTION TO ADJOURN OVER VICTORIA DAY

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

Ordered, That notwithstanding Rule 3(1), of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, that when this Assembly meets on Thursday, May 20th, it shall meet from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and when the House adjourns on Thursday, May 20th, it do stand adjourned until Wednesday, May 26th at 1:30 p.m.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 40 to 45, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 46 to 58, pursuant to Rule 45(5), they were transferred to Motions for Returns (Debatable) Nos. 15 to 27.

BUDGET DEBATE

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, seconded by Mr. Hagel:

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

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

That all words after “That” be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

“the current Premier and cabinet have betrayed Saskatchewan voters with the 2004-2005 provincial budget and, therefore, this provincial government does not enjoy the confidence of the Assembly.”

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, the Assembly recessed from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The debate being resumed on the motion and the amendment, it was on motion of Mr. Yates, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:48 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 40, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

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?

Answer:

None.

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 41, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

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?

Answer:

None.

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 42, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

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?

Answer:

The WCB paid \$1,270,765.33 for office renovations. Most of the existing workstation and furniture inventory was re-used with modifications where necessary. The WCB does not lease furniture and workstations. There were no art purchases or rentals of artworks.

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 43, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

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?

Answer:

The WCB paid \$1,999,372.02 for office renovations. Most of the existing workstation and furniture inventory was re-used with modifications where necessary. Obsolete workstations were disposed of as surplus in 2003. The WCB does not lease furniture and workstations. There were no art purchases or rentals of artworks.

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 44, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

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?

Answer:

Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation spent \$1,289.70 in the 2003/04 budget year for decorative art purchases in government office buildings and Crown Corporation Buildings.

SPMC purchased eight pieces of art, all from Saskatchewan artists. Six of the pieces are at SPMC's head office. The other two were purchased for inventory, but have since been placed. One with SPMC and another with ITO.

Mr. Brkich asked the Government Question No. 45, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

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

Answer:

- (1) The Chair of the Provincial Mediation Board is Terrance S. Chinn and the Board member is David J. Forrest.
- (2) The Board operates with the premise that municipalities would rather have taxes paid than acquire title to the land and that property owners should be provided a reasonable opportunity to retain their land.

The Board deals with each application on a case by case basis to meet the needs of both parties.

If tax arrears cannot be paid immediately, the Board will attempt to arrange a repayment plan that is acceptable to both parties. The Board will provide a reasonable amount of time where a sale of property is required to discharge the arrears. Repayment arrangements would normally not exceed three years for urban property or five years for farm property.

In the absence of an agreed repayment plan, the Chair will impose a repayment plan or issue consent for the title transfer.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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?

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

Mr. Kirsch, to ask the Government the following Question No. 73:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Transportation Company: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Kirsch, to ask the Government the following Question No. 74:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Transportation Company: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 75:

To the Minister Responsible for Investment Saskatchewan: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 76:

To the Minister Responsible for Investment Saskatchewan: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 77:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 78:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 79:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 80:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Investment Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Heppner, to ask the Government the following Question No. 81:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Heppner, to ask the Government the following Question No. 82:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 83:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 84:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 85:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 86:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Krawetz, to ask the Government the following Question No. 87:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Krawetz, to ask the Government the following Question No. 88:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Wall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 89:

To the Premier: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in Executive Council will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Wall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 90:

To the Premier: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in Executive Council will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 91:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) How many incidents have occurred in 2003 where Community Resources and Employment has removed children or foster children from their homes – broken down by regions? (2) Of these incidents, how many resulted in criminal charges being laid against a member of the family?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 92:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) How many incidents have occurred in 2002 where Community Resources and Employment has removed children or foster children from their homes – broken down by regions? (2) Of these incidents, how many resulted in criminal charges being laid against a member of the family?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 93:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) How many incidents have occurred in 2001 where Community Resources and Employment has removed children or foster children from their homes – broken down by regions? (2) Of these incidents, how many resulted in criminal charges being laid against a member of the family?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 94:

To the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 95:

To the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 96:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 97:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Bjornerud, to ask the Government the following Question No. 98:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Bjornerud, to ask the Government the following Question No. 99:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 100:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 101:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 102:

To the Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 103:

To the Minister Responsible for the Public Service Commission: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 104:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Technology: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Wakefield, to ask the Government the following Question No. 105:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Technology: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 106:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 107:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 108:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 109:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 110:

To the Minister of Health: How many long-term care beds will be closed in the fiscal year of 2004-2005 in each Health Authority?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 111:

To the Minister of Health: How many acute care beds will be eliminated in the fiscal year of 2004-2005 in each Health Authority?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 112:

To the Minister of Health: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 113:

To the Minister of Health: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 114:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many Saskatchewan citizens will be affected by the increased rates for hearing aids? (2) What will be the increased revenue for the province?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 115:

To the Minister of Health: How many Saskatchewan citizens will be affected by the increased rates for podiatry visits?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 116:

To the Minister of Health: On what days and times were the Regina General Hospital and the Pasqua Hospital, respectively, in Code Burgundy during the fiscal year of 2003-2004?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 117:

To the Minister of Health: What is the expected day of completion for the automation of all health files in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 118:

To the Minister of Health: What plans does the government have to address the ongoing overflow problems in the emergency rooms at hospitals in Regina and Saskatoon?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 119:

To the Minister of Health: How many new lab technologists does the government plan to hire in the year 2004-2005?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 120:

To the Minister of Health: How many new MRI technicians does the government plan to hire in the year 2004-2005?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 121:

To the Minister of Health: How many new medical radiologist technologists does the government plan to hire in the year 2004-2005?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 122:

To the Minister of Health: How many new physicians and specialists (by specialty) does the government plan to hire in the year 2004-2005 with its recruitment and retention program?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 123:

To the Minister of Health: In the year 2003-2004, how many medical treatments were provided out of province by Saskatchewan Health?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 124:

To the Minister of Health: In the year 2003-2004, how many medical treatments were pre-authorized and provided out of province by Saskatchewan Health?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 125:

To the Minister of Health: In the year 2003-2004, how many medical treatments requesting pre-authorization for out of province treatment were denied by Saskatchewan Health?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 126:

To the Minister of Health: How many new nursing positions does the government plan to fill in the year 2004-2005?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 127:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What specific conditions were attached to the \$79.3 million the federal government gave the Government of Saskatchewan in 2003-2004 for health care according to the First Ministers Accord? (2) What are the allocations in each of the following budget years: 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 128:

To the Minister of Health: How many conversions or closures of health facilities will take place in the fiscal year of 2004-2005 in each Health Authority?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 129:

To the Minister of Health: How much of the additional \$115 million designated for salaries, benefits and fees for service will be used to fund existing union contracts in the fiscal year of 2004-2005?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 130:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 131:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 132:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 133:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Cheveldayoff, to ask the Government the following Question No. 134:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Cheveldayoff, to ask the Government the following Question No. 135:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Allchurch, to ask the Government the following Question No. 136:

To the Minister of Northern Affairs: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Allchurch, to ask the Government the following Question No. 137:

To the Minister of Northern Affairs: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Huyghebaert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 138:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Huyghebaert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 139:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 140:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 141:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 142:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 143:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Kerpan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 144:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Kerpan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 145:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Merriman, to ask the Government the following Question No. 146:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Merriman, to ask the Government the following Question No. 147:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 148:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 149:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Hart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 150:

To the Minister of Labour: What will the annual savings be to the government for the termination of 500 government workers, as announced in the budget delivered March 31, 2004?

Mr. Hart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 151:

To the Minister of Labour: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Hart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 152:

To the Minister of Labour: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 153:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 154:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 12 and are to be answered by day no. 17:

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 155:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: (1) What impact will the recent hike in taxes on tobacco and alcohol have on musicians who perform at live venues in Saskatchewan taverns? (2) What consideration and study was given to this matter prior to the tax increase decisions? (3) Could these documents be provided for the Saskatchewan Arts Community?

Mr. McMorris, to ask the Government the following Question No. 156:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving scale increases in their wages? (2) What is the total value of those increases? (3) What is the total value of all salaries and remunerations paid to employees in this department?

Mr. McMorris, to ask the Government the following Question No. 157:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many employees in this department will be receiving Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increases in their wages? (2) What is the COLA percentage and what will be the total value of the COLA increase?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 158:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many third-party grants will be eliminated by this department? (2) Which grants to those organizations will be so affected? (3) Could you please list the amount of each grant that is being eliminated?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 159:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, how many third-party grants will be reduced by this department? (2) Which grants to those organizations will be so affected? (3) Could you please list both the previous and the newly-reduced amounts of each grant?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 160:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) In fiscal year 2004-2005, is the \$12.6 million allocated for “affordable housing construction” all provincial funding? (2) If not, could you please provide a breakdown of funds from contributing sources?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 161:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: What is the mandate of the Provincial Housing Policy Framework for fiscal year 2004-2005?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 162:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) For fiscal year 2003-2004, what was the total allocation for “affordable housing construction”? (2) Was this all provincial funding? (3) If not, could you please provide a breakdown of funds from contributing sources?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 163:

To the Minister of Health: Which third-party organizations will have their grants reduced, and by how much?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 164:

To the Minister of Health: What are Saskatchewan Health’s policies for approving out-of-province MRIs when ordered by a specialist?

Mr. Cheveldayoff, to ask the Government the following Question No. 165:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) At what facility does the government plan to house the new nursing education seats? (2) How many new instructors will be hired to accommodate the increase in nursing education seats?

The following Question was given notice on day no. 13 and is to be answered by day no. 18:

Mr. Heppner, to ask the Government the following Question No. 166:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) With regard to the Highway 11 twinning project, what is the Department's plan for accesses on this Highway in the communities of Hague, Osler and Rosthern? (2) Has the Department consulted with the councils in those communities about the number and location of these accesses? (3) What is the position of those communities about these accesses, and how does it compare to that of the Department of Highways' plan?

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
