



No. 31

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, May 4, 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: Draude, Stewart, Eagles, Huyghebaert, Brkich, Weekes, Dearborn 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 to ensure that Radville Marian Health Centre is not closed or further downsized.

(Sessional Paper No. 160)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that Red Deer Nursing Home is not closed or further downsized.

(Sessional Paper No. 161)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to stop the trend towards greater centralization and put more control back in the hands of local communities in the hopes of growing our population and business base within the province, thus saving small rural communities like Major from certain extinction.

(Sessional Paper No. 162)

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 reverse the decision to close the Rural Service Centre and Environment Office in Biggar.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 128)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that Laflèche and District Health Centre is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 145)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that Porcupine Carragana Hospital is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 146)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that Herbert Nursing Home is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 158)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The Minister having acquainted the Assembly that Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends it to the consideration of the Assembly, the following Bill was received, read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time at the next sitting:

Bill No. 43 – The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act

(Hon. Mr. Quennell)

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

Bill No. 44 – The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Taylor)

Bill No. 45 – The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Taylor)

Bill No. 46 – The Northern Municipalities Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Taylor)

Bill No. 47 – The Pension Benefits Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Quennell)

Bill No. 48 – The Vehicle Administration Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Sonntag)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 255 to 258, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 259 to 263, pursuant to Rule 45(5), they were transferred to Motions for Returns (Debatable) Nos. 180 to 184.

ADJOURNED DEBATES

Bill No. 1 – The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: That Bill No. 1 – The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 2 – The Power Corporation Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Quennell: That Bill No. 2 – The Power Corporation Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 7 – The Automobile Accident Insurance Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Sonntag: That Bill No. 7 – The Automobile Accident Insurance Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

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. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

Returns, Reports and Papers Tabled

The following papers were laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

Annual Report and Consolidated and Non-Consolidated Financial Statements for Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan for the year ended December 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 163)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for Capital Pension Plan for the year ended December 31, 2003.

(Sessional Paper No. 164)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 255, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

To the Minister of Labour: In 2003, how much did the WCB spend on promotional items designed to promote or otherwise publicize the Workers' Compensation Board?

Answer:

\$3,857.63. Public requests from organizations for WCB promotional items are approved according to WCB *Corporate Social Responsibility* Program guidelines. This program permits the donation of promotional gifts to non-profit or community groups, professional or education groups, or the corporate community. Recent recipients include a Breast Cancer fundraiser, Parkinson's Disease Curling Classic, Career Fairs, schools, sporting events and amateur sports teams. Other organizations receiving WCB promotion items include a Regina Chamber of Commerce luncheon, conferences, and St. John's Ambulance.

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 256, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

To the Minister of Labour: In 2002, how much did the WCB spend on promotional items designed to promote or otherwise publicize the Workers' Compensation Board?

Answer:

\$962.30

Mr. Hart asked the Government Question No. 257, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

To the Minister of Labour: In 2001, how much did the WCB spend on promotional items designed to promote or otherwise publicize the Workers' Compensation Board?

Answer:

\$784.13

Mr. Dearborn asked the Government Question No. 258, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) Will farm fuel purchased from a card lock centre under 200 litres still be eligible for the farm fuel rebate program? (2) If not, why not? (3) Are there any exemptions relative to volume purchase available?

Answer:

- (1) Purchases of farm fuel under 200 litres from a card lock centre continue to be eligible for a rebate if taxes are paid on them. To be eligible they will have to get a statement of purchases from the card lock operator.
- (2) The rebate is available.
- (3) Bulk, card lock or key lock purchases are eligible for the 80 per cent exemption.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 28 and are to be answered by day no. 33:

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 267:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: What is the current provincial funding level for each community pasture in the province in the current year?

Mr. Stewart, to ask the Government the following Question No. 268:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: What was the provincial funding level for each community pasture in the province in the last year?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 269:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) How many elementary and high schools in Saskatchewan do not have high speed internet? (2) Can the Minister please provide the names of these schools?

Mr. Huyghebaert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 270:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: What is the department's specific plan in the current fiscal year for repair of Highway 43 west of Gravelbourg?

The following Question was given notice on day no. 29 and is to be answered by day no. 34:

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 271:

To the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization: (1) In what locations is your department expanding rural service centres? (2) What is the proposed budget for these expansions?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 30 and are to be answered by day no. 35:

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 272:

To the Minister of Environment: In fiscal year 2002-2003, how much money in grants, financial assistance and/or donations in kind did the Environment Department give to Ducks Unlimited and the Nature Conservancy of Canada?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 273:

To the Minister of Environment: In fiscal year 2003-2004, how much money in grants, financial assistance and/or donations in kind will the Environment Department give to Ducks Unlimited and the Nature Conservancy of Canada?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 274:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: (1) Does the \$4.60 budget per person for food in community care homes for clients with disabilities suffice to provide each individual proper calorie intake and nutritional requirements as outlined by Health Canada? (2) Are there ratios for economies of scale? (3) What is the minimum number of clients required for this per capita allocation without adjustment?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 31 and are to be answered by day no. 36:

Mr. Kirsch, to ask the Government the following Question No. 275:

To the Premier: With regard to the special supplement entitled "Opportunity Saskatchewan", which appeared in the May 4, 2004 edition of the *Globe and Mail*: (1) How much did the Government of Saskatchewan spend in exchange for the inclusion of this supplement? (2) In which regional editions of

the *Globe and Mail* did this supplement appear? (3) How many of the articles which appeared were placed for free?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 276:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: (1) For fiscal year 2004-2005, has the “lapse procedure review”, as indicated by Acting Registrar Catherine Benning in her correspondence, been completed? (2) Will the Minister please table the results of this review?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 277:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: (1) Has the Land System Fee Schedule been updated for this fiscal year 2004-2005? (2) Will the Minister please table the updated version of this fee schedule?