



No. 32

# **VOTES and PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

**FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE**

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**Wednesday, May 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, Draude, Stewart, Eagles, Bakken, Huyghebaert, Weekes and Dearborn.

## **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 Kerrobert Hospital is not closed or further downsized.  
(Sessional Paper No. 165)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that the Davidson and Imperial Health Centres be maintained at their current level of service.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 63)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that the Wilkie Health Centre and Special Care Home maintain, at the very least, their current level of services.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 96)

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 Mainprize Manor & Health Centre is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 157)

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)

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.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 161)

#### **WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 264 to 266, they were answered. (See Appendix)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

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The Assembly adjourned at 2:30 p.m. until Thursday 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. Mr. Quennell:

Amendments to the Bylaws of the following Professional Associations:

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation

Interior Designers' Association of Saskatchewan

*(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 62)*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Mr. Heppner asked the Government Question No. 264, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:**

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: When will high speed internet be available in the community of Hague?

Answer:

SaskTel is currently evaluating high speed internet expansion.

**Mr. Heppner asked the Government Question No. 265, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:**

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: When will high speed internet be available in the community of Osler?

Answer:

SaskTel is currently evaluating high speed internet expansion.

**Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 266, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:**

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) What are the specific plans in the current fiscal year for repair of Highway 35 south of Weyburn to the US border? (2) What are the specific plans in the current fiscal year for repair of Airport Road near the city of Weyburn?

Answer:

- (1) For the 2004-05 fiscal year, department crews will continue to provide routine maintenance (hand patching, machine patching, minor sandvik blading and seal coat patching) on the 16 km TMS section north of the US.
- (2) For the 2004-05 fiscal year, department crews will continue to provide routine maintenance (hand patching, machine patching, minor sandvik blading and seal coat patching) on the roadway's surface.

## NOTICE OF MOTION FOR A SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

On Friday:

Ms. Bakken to move the following motion:

That this Assembly urge the provincial government, now contemplating more cutbacks and facility closures in Saskatchewan, to heed the words of former Premier Roy Romanow who, in November 2003, said similar cuts in the early 1990s were a mistake and were based on a "false economy" that "pushed the costs out of the government's pockets and right into the pockets of farmers and business people and nurses."

## NOTICE OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

On Friday:

Mr. Borgerson to move the following motion:

That this Assembly commend the government for its on-going commitment to rural Saskatchewan in areas such as agricultural support, highways, infrastructure and education.

Mr. Trew to move the following motion:

That this Assembly recognize the current federal/provincial equalization formula is penalizing Saskatchewan for outstanding performance in the resource sector and that the equalization program be reformed immediately.

## NOTICE OF PRIORITY ITEMS

On Friday:

### No. 1 (Government)

Mr. Borgerson, to move the following motion:

That this Assembly commend the government for its on-going commitment to rural Saskatchewan in areas such as agricultural support, highways, infrastructures and education.

### No. 2 (Opposition)

Adjourned debate on Motion No. 2 moved by Mr. Gantefer:

That, pursuant to Rule 133(1), The Standing Committee on Human Services shall hold an inquiry and make recommendations regarding the future of health care facilities throughout Saskatchewan, and that the committee shall:

- a) Obtain from the Department of Health a comprehensive list of all health care facilities scheduled for closure or conversion;
- b) Hold public meetings away from the seat of Government in order that the fullest representations may be received without unduly inconveniencing those desiring to be heard;
- c) Hold at least one public meeting in each community with a health care facility scheduled to be closed or converted;
- d) Have the authority to send for persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses under oath;
- e) Have the authority to receive representations from interested parties and individuals; and
- f) Have the authority to engage such advisors and assistants as are required for the purposes of the inquiry;

And, that this Assembly strongly urges the Government to place a moratorium on all health care facility closures and conversions until such time as this inquiry has been completed and a substantive report presented to the Assembly pursuant to Rule 133(4)

(Mr. Huyghebaert)  
*Adjourned Once*

### No. 3 (Government)

Mr. Trew, to move the following motion:

That this Assembly recognize the current federal/provincial equalization formula is penalizing Saskatchewan for outstanding performance in the resource sector and that the equalization program be reformed immediately.

**No. 4 (Opposition)**

Bill No. 201 – The Whistleblower Protection Act

(Mr. Yates)  
*Adjourned Once*

**NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**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?

**The following Questions were asked on day no. 32 and are to be answered by day no. 37:**

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 278:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: What is the rate of compensation for a SaskTel high-speed internet dealer?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 279:

To the Minister of Health: For fiscal year 2004-2005, what is the annual maximum dental allowance for individuals who have been given Supplementary Health Benefits?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 280:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of CIC for the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 281:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of CIC for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 282:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of CIC for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 283:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of CIC for the calendar year 2003?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 284:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of the Investments Division of CIC for the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 285:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of the Investments Division of CIC for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 286:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of the Investments Division of CIC for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 287:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of the Investments Division of CIC for the calendar year 2003?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 288:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SGI for the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 289:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SGI for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 290:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SGI for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 291:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SGI for the calendar year 2003?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 292:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskPower for the calendar year 2000?



Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 293:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskPower for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 294:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskPower for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 295:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskPower for the calendar year 2003?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 296:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Energy: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskEnergy for the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 297:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Energy: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskEnergy for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 298:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Energy: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskEnergy for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 299:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Energy: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskEnergy for the calendar year 2003?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 300:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskTel for the calendar year 2000?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 301:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskTel for the calendar year 2001?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 302:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskTel for the calendar year 2002?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 303:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Will the Minister please provide the out-of-country travel itinerary and the cost of each trip for the President of SaskTel for the calendar year 2003?