



No. 36

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, May 11, 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, Huyghebaert, Weekes, Dearborn and Bakken.

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 Herbert-Morse Union Hospital is not closed or further downsized.

(Sessional Paper No. 169)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to introduce and support whistleblower legislation.

(Sessional Paper No. 170)

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 take immediate action and make necessary repairs to Highway 22 in order to address safety and economic concerns.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 50)

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 Biggar Hospital, Long-term Care Home and Ambulance services maintain their current level of services.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 106)

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 Kerrobert Hospital is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to 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 Foam Lake Health Centre is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 168)

SPEAKER TABLES REPORTS

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the following:

End-of-Term Financial Statements for the New Democratic Party Caucus for the period ended November 4, 2003

(Sessional Paper No. 172)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 275 and 276, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being call for Question No. 277, pursuant to Rule 46(1), the answer was Tabled and, by reason of length, converted by the Clerk to Return No. 185.

(Sessional Paper No. 173)

SECOND READINGS

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

The Hon. Mr. Taylor, a member of the Executive Council, 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, moved: That Bill No. 44 – The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

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

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Taylor: That Bill No. 45 – The Planning and Development Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

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

The Hon. Mr. Taylor, a member of the Executive Council, 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, moved: That Bill No. 46 – The Northern Municipalities Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 12 – The Purchasing Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Higgins: That Bill No. 12 – The Purchasing Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

On motion of the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

Ordered, That Bill No. 12 - The Purchasing Act, 2004 - be now referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Bill No. 35 – The Crown Corporations Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Atkinson: That Bill No. 35 – The Crown Corporations Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 22 – The Saskatchewan Farm Security Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Wartman: That Bill No. 22 – The Saskatchewan Farm Security Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Finance to consider Estimates for the Department of Environment.

Progress was reported and the Committee given leave to sit again.

The Assembly recessed from 5:00 p.m. until 7:04 p.m.

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. Stewart, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 7:10 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Kirsch asked the Government Question No. 275, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cline:

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?

Answer:

- (1) \$98,000.00
- (2) All regional editions of the *Globe and Mail* newspaper carried the supplement.
- (3) All articles were placed as part of the supplement.

Mr. Weekes asked the Government Question No. 276, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Forbes:

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?

Answer:

- (1) No. ISC has been working with stakeholders to review and revise the lapse procedure. This work is still underway. ISC has posted updated instructions for the current lapsing procedure on its website.
- (2) The review is not yet finished.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were asked on day no. 33 and are to be answered by day no. 38:

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 304:

To the Minister of Health: (1) When will the town of Watrous get its share of provincial funding for its new hospital? (2) If there is a waiting list for projects such as this, where is the Watrous Hospital on that list?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 305:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2004-2005: (1) Does ISC have an Assurance Fund to compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) If not, how are compensation claims handled? (3) How many such claims have been made to date? (4) How many have been approved? (5) What is the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 306:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2003-2004: (1) Did ISC have an Assurance Fund to compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) If not, how were compensation claims handled? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 307:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2002-2003: (1) Did ISC have an Assurance Fund to compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) If not, how were compensation claims handled? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 308:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2001-2002: (1) Did ISC have an Assurance Fund to compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) If not, how were compensation claims handled? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 309:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2004-2005: (1) How does ISC compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) Do compensation claims come out of the government's Consolidation Fund? (3) How many such claims have been made to date? (4) How many have been approved? (5) What is the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 310:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2003-2004: (1) How did ISC compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) Did compensation claims come out of the government's Consolidation Fund? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 311:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2002-2003: (1) How did ISC compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) Did compensation claims come out of the government's Consolidation Fund? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 312:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Services Corporation: For fiscal year 2001-2002: (1) How did ISC compensate those who suffered financial losses due to system delays or errors? (2) Did compensation claims come out of the government's Consolidation Fund? (3) How many such claims were made that year? (4) How many were approved? (5) What was the total dollar value of those claims?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 35 and are to be answered by day no. 40:

Mr. Huyghebaert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 313:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) How much space does the department have leased in the provincial building in Meadow Lake? (2) How much of that space is vacant? (3) What are the financial terms of the lease?

Mr. Huyghebaert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 314:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation: With regard to the provincial building in Meadow Lake: (1) What is the current square footage under lease to the provincial government? (2) What is the length of the lease? (3) How much of the leased space is currently vacant? (4) What are the financial terms of the lease? (5) Who is the owner of this building?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 36 and are to be answered by day no. 41:

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 315:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: As of December 31, 2003: (1) How many MAX TV subscribers were not employees of SaskTel and received a discounted subscription rate for the MAX TV service? (2) How much was the discount per subscriber? (3) What qualification enabled the subscriber to receive a discount?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 316:

To the Minister of Justice: (1) Can the Minister provide the number of judge positions that are currently available in each level of court? (2) How many judges have gone supernumerary?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 317:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 1997?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 318:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 1998?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 319:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 1999?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 320:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 2000?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 321:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 2001?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 322:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 2002?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 323:

To the Minister of Justice: Can the Minister provide the number of court files that were opened in the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, respectively, for the calendar year of 2003?