



No. 46

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Monday, May 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: Elhard, Wall, Stewart, McMorris, Bakken, Brkich, Weekes, Dearborn, Trew and Huyghebaert.

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 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 Craik and District Health Centre is not closed or further downsized.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 166)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that the Dodsland and Luseland ambulance services are not discontinued.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 167)

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.

(Addendum to 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 reconsider the decision to reduce funding to the Claybank Brick Plant.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 180)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that the Border Health Centre in Climax remains a 24-hour facility.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 182)

**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
RAPPORT DU COMITÉ PERMANENT DES SERVICES À LA PERSONNE**

The following Bills were reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, they were read the third time and passed:

Les projets de loi suivants sont rapportés sans amendement et avec la permission de l'Assemblée de passer outre au renvoi au Comité plénier, sont lus une troisième fois et adoptés:

Bill No. 30 - The Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2004

Projet de loi n° 30 – Loi de 2004 modifiant la Loi de 1998 sur la Cour du Banc de la Reine

Bill No. 32 - The Powers of Attorney Amendment Act, 2004

Projet de loi n° 32 – Loi de 2004 modifiant la Loi de 2002 sur les procurations

Bill No. 39 - The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act, 2004

Projet de loi n° 39 – Loi de 2004 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur l'exécution des ordonnances alimentaires

Bill No. 24 – The Provincial Court Amendment Act, 2004

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

The following Bills were reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, they were read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 28 - The Public Employees Pension Plan Act, 2004

Bill No. 16 – The Geographic Names Board Amendment Act, 2004

Bill No. 17 – The Department of Energy and Mines Amendment Act, 2004

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS / DÉPÔT DE PROJETS DE LOI

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

Les projets de loi suivants sont reçus, lus une première fois, et la deuxième lecture en est fixée à la prochaine séance:

Bill No. 67 - The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2004

Projet de loi n° 67 - Loi de 2004 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard

(Hon. Mr. / L'hon. M. Cline)

Bill No. 68 - The Assessment Management Agency Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Taylor)

Bill No. 69 - The Public Inquiries Amendment Act, 2004

(Hon. Mr. Quennell)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 452 to 455, they were answered. (See Appendix)

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 55 – The Regional Health Services Amendment Act, 2004

The Hon. Mr. Nilson, 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. 55 – The Regional Health Services Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 56 – The Public Health Amendment Act, 2004

The Hon. Mr. Nilson, 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. 56 – The Public Health Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 59 – The Ambulance Amendment Act, 2004

The Hon. Mr. Nilson, 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. 59 – The Ambulance Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 60 – The Public Service Amendment Act, 2004

The Hon. Ms. Atkinson, 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. 60 – The Public Service Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Draude, adjourned.

Bill No. 61 – The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Amendment Act, 2004

The Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen, 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. 61 – The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Mr. D'Autremont, adjourned.

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 36 – The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen: That Bill No. 36 – The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following Recorded Division:

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Calvert	Addley	Lautermilch	Hagel	Van Mulligen
Serby	Atkinson	Cline	Sonntag	Crofford
Prebble	Forbes	Wartman	Belanger	Higgins
Thomson	Nilson	Beatty	Hamilton	Junor
Harper	Iwanchuk	McCall	Quennell	Trew
Yates	Taylor	Morin	Borgerson	

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Wall	Toth	Elhard	Heppner	D'Autremont
Krawetz	Draude	Hermanson	Bjornerud	Stewart
Wakefield	Morgan	McMorris	Eagles	Gantefer
Harpauer	Bakken	Cheveldayoff	Huyghebaert	Allchurch
Brkich	Weekes	Kerpan	Merriman	Chisholm
Dearborn	Hart	Kirsch		

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That Bill No. 36 – The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2004 - be now referred to the Standing Committee on the Economy.

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.

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That Bill No. 1 - The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2004 - be now referred to the Standing Committee on the Economy.

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. Brkich, adjourned.

Bill No. 29 – The Snowmobile Amendment Act, 2004

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Atkinson: That Bill No. 29 – The Snowmobile Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

Ordered, That Bill No. 29 – The Snowmobile Amendment 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. Krawetz, adjourned.

Bill No. 51 – The Limitations Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Quennell: That Bill No. 51 – The Limitations Act – be now read a second time.

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That Bill No. 51 – The Limitations Act - be now referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services.

Bill No. 52 - The Limitations Consequential Amendment Act, 2004**Projet de loi n° 52 - Loi de 2004 sur les modifications corrélatives découlant de la loi intitulée The Limitations Act**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Quennell: That Bill No. 52 – The Limitations Consequential Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. Quennell: Que le projet de loi n° 52 – Loi de 2004 sur les modifications corrélatives découlant de la loi intitulée The Limitations Act – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

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

Il s'élève un débat et la motion, mise aux voix, est adoptée et, en conséquence, ledit projet de loi est lu une deuxième fois.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

Sur motion de l'hon. M. Quennell:

Ordered, That Bill No. 52 – The Limitations Consequential Amendment Act, 2004 - be now referred to the Standing Committee on Human Services

Il est résolu que le projet de loi n° 52 – Loi de 2004 sur les modifications corrélatives découlant de la loi intitulée The Limitations Act – soit maintenant renvoyé au Comité permanent des services à la personne.

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

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Sonntag: That Bill No. 48 – The Vehicle Administration Amendment Act, 2004 – be now read a second time.

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

Ordered, That Bill No. 48 – The Vehicle Administration Amendment Act, 2004 - be now referred to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

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.

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

The Committee then considered Estimates for the Department of Environment.

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 8:59 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED

The following paper was laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

Amendment to the Bylaws of the following Professional Association:
Saskatchewan College of Physical Therapists

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 62)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Hermanson asked the Government Question No. 452 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: What is the return on investment in MAX TV to date, both in terms of capital expenditures and in terms of operating costs?

Answer:

In a competitive marketplace, Return on Investment or Return on Equity is not released on a product by product basis. Return on Equity is reported at a corporate level and in 2003 SaskTel's Return on Equity, as reported in the 2003 Annual Report, was 13%.

Mr. Hermanson asked the Government Question No. 453 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: What is the value of incremental revenues earned from MAX TV to date?

Answer:

SaskTel releases its audited financial information on an annual basis. As of December 31, 2003, Max revenues were \$6.6 million.

Ms. Bakken asked the Government Question No. 454 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What process is used to ensure that Methadone is only provided to people who qualify for the Methadone program? (2) Are those qualifying for the Methadone program required to take their dosage in the presence of a physician?

Answer:

- (1) Prior to initiating methadone treatment, physicians must screen all potential patients to ensure individuals meet admission criteria from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan guidelines. Educational audits are performed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons to ensure that physicians properly understand the principles and practice of the assessment and management of these patients, and that patients receive maximum benefit.
- (2) Typically physicians do not directly observe clients taking their medication. The healthcare professionals responsible for 'directly observed therapy' of prescribed methadone are pharmacists and nurses.

Mr. Brkich asked the Government Question No. 455 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:

To the Minister of Health: What is the total cost savings of closing one wing of the long-term care facility in Davidson?

Answer:

On May 18, 2004, it was announced the Heartland Regional Health Authority would close one wing of the long-term care facility in Davidson. The estimated savings are \$100,000, net of resident revenue, annually.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were asked on day no. 43 and are to be answered by day no. 48:

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 458:

To the Minister of Health: How much money did the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Authority spend in overtime for nursing positions in each quarter of the fiscal year 2002-2003?

Mr. Gantefer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 459:

To the Minister of Health: How much money did the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Authority save by recently combining units and reallocating beds?

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 460:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: For the calendar year 2004, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 461:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: For the calendar year 2003, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 462:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: For the calendar year 2002, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 463:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: For the calendar year 2001, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 464:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the calendar year 2001, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 465:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the calendar year 2002, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 466:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the calendar year 2003, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 467:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: For the calendar year 2004, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 468:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: For the calendar year 2004, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 469:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: For the calendar year 2003, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 470:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: For the calendar year 2002, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 471:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: For the calendar year 2001, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 472:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: For the calendar year 2001, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 473:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: For the calendar year 2002, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 474:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: For the calendar year 2003, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

Mr. Weekes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 475:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: For the calendar year 2004, can the Minister please provide: (1) The names of employees who have participated in language lessons in a foreign country. (2) What country they travelled to. (3) What language they are learning. (4) How many trips they have made and the duration of their stay. (5) The cost of each of these trips.

The following Questions were asked on day no. 44 and are to be answered by day no. 49:

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 476:

To the Minister of Health: (1) In the year 2002, did administration (CEO, all vice-presidents, chief medical officer, etc.) at the Heartland Health Region receive any increase in salary, benefits or gratuities? (2) If so, what was the increase?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 477:

To the Minister of Health: (1) In the year 2003, did administration (CEO, all vice-presidents, chief medical officer, etc.) at the Heartland Health Region receive any increase in salary, benefits or gratuities? (2) If so, what was the increase?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 478:

To the Minister of Health: (1) In the year 2004, did administration (CEO, all vice-presidents, chief medical officer, etc.) at the Heartland Health Region receive any increase in salary, benefits or gratuities? (2) If so, what was the increase?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 479:

To the Minister Responsible for the Highway Traffic Board: For fiscal year 2003-2004: (1) What was the total number of appeal applications made to the Highway Traffic Board? (2) Of that number, how many were approved? (3) How many were rejected? (4) How many of the approved applications resulted in a successful appeal?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 480:

To the Minister Responsible for the Highway Traffic Board: For fiscal year 2002-2003: (1) What was the total number of appeal applications made to the Highway Traffic Board? (2) Of that number, how many were approved? (3) How many were rejected? (4) How many of the approved applications resulted in a successful appeal?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 481:

To the Minister Responsible for the Highway Traffic Board: For fiscal year 2001-2002: (1) What was the total number of appeal applications made to the Highway Traffic Board? (2) Of that number, how many were approved? (3) How many were rejected? (4) How many of the approved applications resulted in a successful appeal?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 482:

To the Minister Responsible for the Highway Traffic Board: For fiscal year 2000-2001: (1) What was the total number of appeal applications made to the Highway Traffic Board? (2) Of that number, how many were approved? (3) How many were rejected? (4) How many of the approved applications resulted in a successful appeal?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 483:

To the Minister Responsible for the Highway Traffic Board: For fiscal year 1999-2000: (1) What was the total number of appeal applications made to the Highway Traffic Board? (2) Of that number, how many were approved? (3) How many were rejected? (4) How many of the approved applications resulted in a successful appeal?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 45 and are to be answered by day no. 50:

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 484:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: In 2003, how many vehicle damage claims to SGI were denied because the claimants were found to be residents of Alberta?

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 485:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: In 2002, how many vehicle damage claims to SGI were denied because the claimants were found to be residents of Alberta?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 46 and are to be answered by day no. 51:

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 486:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: Can the Minister provide the names of the 14 people whose jobs were terminated in the last fiscal year?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 487:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: Can the Minister provide the classification, salaries and geographic location of the 14 positions terminated in the last fiscal year?