



No. 73

# **VOTES and PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

**FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE**

---

**Tuesday, March 15, 2005**

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: Toth, Elhard, D'Autremont, Wall, Hermanson, Bjornerud, Stewart, Chisholm, McMorris, Eagles, Cheveldayoff, Brkich, Weekes, Kerpan, Dearborn and Hart.

## **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 provide the funding required for additional residential spaces for Swift Current residents with lifelong disabilities.

(Sessional Paper No. 715)

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 force the amalgamation of school divisions in Saskatchewan and continue re-organization of school division on a strictly voluntary basis.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 637)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately address the concerns of all individuals affected by the TransGas Asquith Natural Gas Storage Project, pay 100% of the costs involved to rectify disruptions to water supplies, produce an environment assessment study encompassing a larger area outside the scope of the project, disclose the project's long term effects on these areas and consider alternative sources of water for the project.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 640)

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 888 to 895, they were answered. (See Appendix)

**MOTION TO COMMEMORATE SASKATCHEWAN CENTENNIAL**

Leave of the Assembly having been granted, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Calvert, seconded by Mr. Wall:

That this Legislative Assembly mark the first sitting in our Centennial year by honouring Saskatchewan – our rich history of traditions and diverse cultural fabric that have helped to shape our identity; our innovative thinking and inventiveness that built the province and helped to define Canada over the past 100 years; our community spirit and collective pride; our past accomplishments and future opportunities; and all of our people, places and perspectives that will provide the foundation to build a bright and prosperous future for Saskatchewan.

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

\_\_\_\_\_

The Assembly adjourned at 3:00 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

***Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky***  
***Speaker***

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Ms. Draude asked the Government Question No. 888, which was answered by the Premier:**

To the Premier: (1) Does the government have any financial interest in A1 Soybean Enterprise Ltd.? (2) If so, what dollar amount and when was it made?

Answer:

- (1) No.
- (2) N/A

**Mr. Stewart asked the Government Question No. 889, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) What is the process used for auditing purposes in the Livestock Loan Guarantee Program? (2) Are there any safeguards in place to protect participants in the program from financial malfeasance?

Answer:

- (1) The executive and members of each association, along with the local supervisor, who is hired and responsible to the local association, is the first check for ensuring the association is following all necessary rules.

Associations (Co-operatives or Corporations) also have their books and records audited annually in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

SAFRR randomly audits about seven percent of associations annually to verify cattle inventories as reported by the association. SAFRR also follows up on specific problems identified or if members raise an issue.

- (2) The main safeguard in the program is the members, executive and the local supervisor of the association. The members have a financial stake in ensuring an association is operating appropriately through the members' assurance fund (shared risk).

Additional features to ensure compliance include:

- monthly inventory reports;
- monthly loan reports;
- review of new purchases;
- review of association procedures.

**Mr. Stewart asked the Government Question No. 890, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) For every month since November 2003 to the present day, how many calls has the farm stress hotline received? (2) Please break down the information by month.

Answer:

- (1) 1,000
- (2) November 2003 – 66; December 2003 – 64; January 2004 – 91; February 2004 – 102; March 2004 – 81; April 2004 – 67; May 2004 – 78; June 2004 – 66; July 2004 – 75; August 2004 – 67; September 2004 – 87; October 2004 – 90; November 1 to 25, 2004 – 66.

**Mr. Bjornerud asked the Government Question No. 891, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Forbes:**

To the Minister of Environment: (1) When land is purchased and set aside for wildlife, are adjacent landowners consulted? (2) If not, why not? (3) If yes, please explain the consultation process.

Answer:

- (1) Environment does not consult with adjacent landowners when purchasing important habitat lands.
- (2) All lands considered for purchase by Saskatchewan Environment (SE), because of their wildlife habitat suitability, are acquired following the principle of “willing seller-willing buyer”. The

purchase price is negotiated directly with the local landowner and is based on fair market values. SE typically becomes aware of the potential availability of suitable wildlife habitat lands through direct contact by the seller or through advertisements and public notices, in the same way as other potential purchasers.

(3) N/A

**Mr. Gantefoer asked the Government Question No. 892, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:**

To the Minister of Health: (1) Please indicate the patient assessment criteria for prioritizing chemotherapy and radiation treatment. (2) Are these assessment criteria the same for both cancer centres in the province?

Answer:

(1) The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency prioritizes each patient appointment to ensure that treatments occur within medically necessary timeframes.

The oncologists make their recommendations regarding new patient appointments and treatment start times based on scientific evidence and clinical trial protocols, as well as published norms.

The level of urgency is established for each individual patient by an oncologist. As soon as the pathology report and physician referral are received, an oncologist who treats that type of cancer reviews the patient's file as part of the triage system. The oncologist considers the type of cancer (whether it is a slow or fast moving disease), the stage (extent) of the disease, whether the disease is a recurrence or a new cancer, the symptoms a patient is experiencing and the advice of the referring physician as to urgency.

(2) The assessment criteria are the same for both the Allan Blair and Saskatoon Cancer Centres.

**Mr. Gantefoer asked the Government Question No. 893, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:**

To the Minister of Health: Please indicate the number of people currently waiting for radiation and chemotherapy, respectively, at the Allan Blair Centre.

Answer:

The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's count of people waiting includes all patients who have been referred for an appointment with a medical oncologist (chemotherapy) or radiation oncologist (radiation therapy) and whose appointment has not yet taken place. This includes those who have just been referred as well as those who have been booked for an appointment.

The Agency's count of the number of patients waiting does not remove those waiting for clinical reasons, such as recovery time following surgery, an oncologist's order to delay (e.g., further tests may be required to obtain a definitive diagnosis prior to treatment) or a patient's request to delay based on date preference.

Approximately 45-50 new patients are seen every week at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre. In November 2004, there were 46 people waiting for radiation and 145 people waiting for chemotherapy at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre.

**Mr. Gantefoer asked the Government Question No. 894, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:**

To the Minister of Health: Please indicate the number of people currently waiting for radiation and chemotherapy, respectively, at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre.

Answer:

The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's count of people waiting includes all patients who have been referred for an appointment with a medical oncologist (chemotherapy) or radiation oncologist (radiation therapy) and whose appointment has not yet taken place. This includes those who have just been referred as well as those who have been booked for an appointment.

The Agency's count of the number of patients waiting does not remove those waiting for clinical reasons, such as recovery time following surgery, an oncologist's order to delay (e.g., further tests may be required to obtain a definitive diagnosis prior to treatment) or a patient's request to delay based on date preference.

Approximately 45-50 new patients are seen every week at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre. In November 2004, there were 91 people waiting for radiation and 104 people waiting for chemotherapy at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre.

**Mr. Elhard asked the Government Question No. 895, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:**

To the Minister of Crown Management Board: (1) How many delinquent and past due accounts will SaskTel be able to collect though the \$137 utility rebate? (2) What is the anticipated dollar amount of these accounts?

Answer:

- (1) As of November 30, 2004 there were approximately 8,400 customer accounts over 60 days past due. Of the 8,400 accounts there are approximately 1,800 customer accounts which owe SaskTel more than \$137.00.
- (2) The dollar amount owing to SaskTel from the 8,400 accounts over 60 days past due is approximately \$2.4 million.

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS  
AVIS DE MOTION PORTANT PREMIÈRE LECTURE DE PROJETS DE LOI**

On Thursday / jeudi:

Hon. Mr. Quennell to move First Reading of Bill No. 90 – The Adult Guardianship and Co-decision-making Amendment Act, 2005

Hon. Mr. Cline to move First Reading of Bill No. 91 – The Land Surveys Amendment Act, 2005

Hon. Mr. Quennell to move First Reading of Bill No. 92 – The International Protection of Adults (Hague Convention Implementation) Act

L'hon. M. Quennell proposera la première lecture du projet de loi n° 92 – Loi de mise en oeuvre de la Convention de la Haye sur la protection internationale des adultes

Hon. Ms. Beatty to move First Reading of Bill No. 93 - The Doukhobors of Canada C.C.U.B. Trust Fund Amendment Act, 2005

## NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The following Questions were asked on day no. 72 and are to be answered by day no. 77:**

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 897:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What are the communities where VLTs are operating? (2) What is the number of VLT machines in each community? (3) What is the total revenue generated from VLT machines in each of those communities?

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 898:

To the Minister of Environment: What cities, towns and/or villages have been charged under subsection 33(3) of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002*, subsection 33(2) of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002*, subsection 30(5) of *The Water Regulations, 2002*, section 74(1)(a) of *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002*, and/or any other legislation or regulations pertaining to the operation of water works for the purpose of supplying water for human consumption?

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 899:

To the Provincial Secretary: (1) Can the Provincial Secretary identify the amount the provincial government has spent to date on television commercials promoting the province's centennial? (2) Please also identify the names of the actors that appear in the commercials, where they live and whether they are members of ACTRA.

Mr. Heppner, to ask the Government the following Question No. 900:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: How many tickets has SGI purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 901:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: How many tickets has SaskEnergy purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

Mr. Kerpan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 902:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: How many tickets has SaskTel purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

Mr. Kerpan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 903:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: How many tickets has Crown Management Board purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

Mr. Kerpan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 904:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many tickets has SaskPower purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 905:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: How many tickets has Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority purchased, and how many does it intend to purchase, for the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala on May 19, 2005 at Credit Union Place in Saskatoon?

**The following Questions were asked on day no. 73 and are to be answered by day no. 78:**

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 906:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) Is Highway 35 south of Weyburn to the US border part of the 2005 spring construction project for the Department of Highways and Transportation? (2) When will the construction be started? (3) What section of Highway 35 will be included in the project? (4) What type of work will the project include? (5) What is the cost of the project?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 907:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) What reasoning may be provided for rural customers paying a municipal fee? (2) How are municipal fees assessed? (3) What amount of revenue does SaskPower collect from municipal fees? (4) Do city customers pay this fee?