



No. 87

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Thursday, April 7, 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: Elhard, Wall, Draude, Eagles, Bakken, Brkich and Weekes.

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 reverse the decision to force the amalgamation of school divisions in Saskatchewan and continue re-organization of school divisions 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 take the necessary action to ensure that the CAIS program receives adequate provincial funding, the funding formula is changed to ensure equal access to compensation, and to contribute funds to the latest BSE assistance package released by the Federal Government.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 638)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to take necessary steps to ensure that this portion of #15 Highway be repaired and re-surfaced immediately so as to remove the safety hazard to all motorists who rely on this vital road for transportation and economic purposes.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 639)

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)

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.

(Addendum to 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 implement a strategy that will deal with crystal methamphetamine education, prevention, enforcement and treatment.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 720)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that the development of cabin lots in the area of Rafferty Dam proceeds.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 729)

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. 99 – The Canadian Information Processing Society of Saskatchewan Act

(Hon. Mr. Thomson)

Bill No. 101 - The Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act

Projet de loi n° 101 - Loi sur l'exécution des jugements étrangers

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

Bill No. 103 – The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005

(Hon. Mr. Quennell)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 927 to 946, they were answered. (See Appendix)

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:28 p.m. until Friday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. D'Autremont asked the Government Question No. 927, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) Which investments held by SGI or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2003? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) An investment in Coachman Insurance Company was subject to a third party review in 2003.
- (2) The third party review found that the business plan represented a reasonable expectation for plausible future operating results.

Mr. D'Autremont asked the Government Question No. 928, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) Which investments held by SGI or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2004? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) No investments held by SGI were subject to a third party review in 2004.
- (2) N/A

Mr. D'Autremont asked the Government Question No. 929, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) Which investments held by SGI or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2005? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) No investments held by SGI were subject to a third party review in 2005.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Wall asked the Government Question No. 930, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Crofford:

To the Minister of Community Resources and Employment: How many new residential spaces for individuals in Swift Current with lifelong disabilities were funded in the 2005-2006 provincial budget?

Answer:

Six existing residential spaces for people with intellectual disabilities are currently funded in Swift Current. The 2005-06 budget included new funding of \$1M to meet the needs of people with intellectual disabilities across the province. Funding will be allocated in accordance with the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

Mr. Weekes asked the Government Question No. 931, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What percentage of money allocated for the 2003 CAIS program has been paid out to Saskatchewan producers?

Answer:

As of March 27, 2005, the federal CAIS administration has paid out \$323,426,045 to Saskatchewan producers. Based on federal government estimates, this is approximately 67% - 71% of the total expected 2003 CAIS payments to Saskatchewan.

Ms. Draude asked the Government Question No. 932, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: What is the cost charged by SaskPower to villages, towns and cities per street light in their jurisdiction?

Answer:

Streetlight rates are designed by wattage of each light. Each community will have different wattage requirements for streetlights; therefore the attached rate page will show the applicable charge for each streetlight.

STREETLIGHTING

APPLICABILITY: To SaskPower-owned street, highway and pedestrian walkway lighting.

<u>RATE</u>	<u>FIXTURE WATTAGE AND TYPE</u>				<u>MONTHLY</u>
<u>CODES</u>	<u>MV</u>	<u>LPSV</u>	<u>HPSV</u>	<u>MH</u>	<u>RATE (\$)</u>
S05	125 W				\$12.94
S06	175 W				\$14.89
S13		90 W			\$14.56
S14		90 W Cont.			\$17.71
S15		135 W			\$19.43
S16		180 W			\$25.89
S17			70 W		\$10.89
S18			100 W		\$11.91
S19			150 W		\$13.76
S20			150 W Cont.		\$15.50
S21			250 W		\$17.66
S22			250 W Cont.		\$21.22
S23			400 W		\$24.21
S24				100 W	\$17.50
S25				175 W	\$20.20
S26				250 W	\$25.20

The rates herein defined are net and do not include any taxes or surcharges, which may lawfully be imposed by or at the request of any municipal, provincial or federal authority.

Ms. Draude asked the Government Question No. 933, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) What is SaskPower's policy regarding dates for turning on Christmas lights and decorations? (2) What is the policy regarding any village, town or city that does not adhere to this policy?

Answer:

- (1) SaskPower encourages responsible use of decorative lighting with no policy on when a community can connect their decorative lighting load. However, SaskPower has a festive season policy for free power for all Saskatchewan community decorative lighting, starting on December 15 and ending January 10 of each year.
- (2) When decorative lighting is connected at any other time other than the free festive season specified, the community is charged for estimated power used according to the connected load for decorative lighting.

Ms. Harpauer asked the Government Question No. 934, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) Which investments held by SaskEnergy or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2003? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskEnergy Incorporated did not make any new investments outside its core mandate during 2003.
- (2) N/A

Ms. Harpauer asked the Government Question No. 935, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) Which investments held by SaskEnergy or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2004? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskEnergy Incorporated has not made any investments which would be subject to this review.
- (2) N/A

Ms. Harpauer asked the Government Question No. 936, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

To the Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy Incorporated: (1) Which investments held by SaskEnergy or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2005? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskEnergy Incorporated has not made any investments which would be subject to this review.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 937, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) Was a third party review completed prior to DirectWest's purchase of Midwest Marketing? (2) Who was hired to conduct the review? (3) What fee was paid by SaskTel for the review? (4) Will the review be tabled, and if so, when?

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) W. Shupe & Company Investment Advisory Services.
- (3) \$26,750 (includes GST)
- (4) The full report is confidential for competitive reasons; however there is a public opinion letter available for disclosure.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 938, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: (1) Which investments held by Crown Investments Corporation or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2003? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) The following investments received independent third party reviews in 2003:
 - Tapped Into.com Inc., Streamlogics Corp., Saskatoon Square, and Itracks (investments by SaskTel)
 - Genex (merger of Genex Swine Group Inc. with Hypor, the swine genetics division of international food company Nutreco. At the time, the investment in Genex was held by CIC Industrial Interests Inc., now Investment Saskatchewan)
 - Coachman Insurance Company (investment by SGI)
- (2) The conclusion of the Genex Fairness Opinion stated that the proposed transaction was fair to CIC from a financial point of view. The fairness opinion covered both the purchase price for the minority shareholders interest, and the merger structure.

See SaskTel's response to Question No. 941, and SGI's response to Question No. 927, for more details.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 939, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: (1) Which investments held by Crown Investments Corporation or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2004? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) The following investments received independent third party reviews in 2004:
 - Navigata Communications (incremental investment by SaskTel)
 - United Arab Emirates (SaskTel's establishment of a company which will provide professional consulting services)
- (2) See SaskTel's response to Question 942 for more details.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 940, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

To the Minister Responsible for Crown Management Board: (1) Which investments held by Crown Investments Corporation or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2005? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) The following investments received independent third party reviews in 2005:
 - Streamlogics (investment by SaskTel)
 - DirectWest (investment by SaskTel re purchase of Midwest Marketing)
- (2) See SaskTel's responses to Questions 937 and 943 for more details.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 941, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) Which investments held by SaskTel or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2003? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) TappedInto.com Inc., Streamlogics Corp., Saskatoon Square, and Itracks.
- (2) There was no public disclosure element required when this third party review was conducted.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 942, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) Which investments held by SaskTel or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2004? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) Navigata and Lootah/SaskTel LLC.
- (2) Navigata needs to be stabilized to a cash flow break even level in the very near term before beginning to build for future internal growth or external opportunities. This can be achieved through aggressive cost reductions and customer/product rationalization as outlined in Alternative #1 [SaskTel Integration (Rapid Turnaround Plan)]. The review for Lootah/SaskTel LLC was favourable and endorsement was given to the investment in this company.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 943, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) Which investments held by SaskTel or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2005? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) DirectWest and Streamlogics Corp.
- (2) DirectWest: The opinion indicated that the acquisition represented a business opportunity which was reasonably appropriate relative to SaskTel's investment and strategic business objectives. Streamlogics: The opinion stated that the transaction represented a reasonable business opportunity and a reasonable investment arrangement relative to SaskTel's investment and strategic business objectives.

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 944, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) Which investments held by SaskPower or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2003? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskPower and/or its subsidiaries had no investments that were subject to an independent third party review in 2003.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 945, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) Which investments held by SaskPower or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2004? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskPower and/or its subsidiaries had no investments that were subject to an independent third party review in 2004.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Kerpan asked the Government Question No. 946, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Quennell:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: (1) Which investments held by SaskPower or any of its subsidiaries were subject to an independent third party review in 2005? (2) What were the results of the review?

Answer:

- (1) SaskPower and/or its subsidiaries had no investments that were subject to an independent third party review in 2005.
- (2) N/A

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were asked on day no. 84 and are to be answered by day no. 89:

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 954:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many new egg production units were allocated to Saskatchewan in 2004? (2) How many of those new egg production units were sold to existing registered egg producers? When were they issued? (3) Of the new egg production units that were sold to registered egg producers, what amount of money was collected? (4) Of the remaining new egg production units that were not sold to existing registered egg producers, how many have been allocated to new producers? (5) When an egg production unit is sold, where does the money go? (6) What policies or guidelines are in place regarding the spending of the funds generated from the sale of egg production units? (7) If a public auction of egg production units is held, what happens to the units that do not receive bids? (8) When was the last time that an egg production unit was offered to a new producer who had his name on the Saskatchewan Egg Producers Marketing Board waiting list?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 955:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many new egg production units were allocated to Saskatchewan in 2003? (2) How many of those new egg production units were sold to existing registered egg producers? When were they issued? (3) Of the new egg production units that were sold to registered egg producers, what amount of money was collected? (4) Of the remaining new egg production units that were not sold to existing registered egg producers, how many have been allocated to new producers? (5) When an

egg production unit is sold, where does the money go? (6) What policies or guidelines are in place regarding the spending of the funds generated from the sale of egg production units? (7) If a public auction of egg production units is held, what happens to the units that do not receive bids? (8) When was the last time that an egg production unit was offered to a new producer who had his name on the Saskatchewan Egg Producers Marketing Board waiting list?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 956:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 957:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 958:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 959:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 960:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 2001?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 961:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 2002?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 962:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 2003?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 963:

To the Minister of Justice: How much were police services or crown prosecutors charged by SaskTel for wiretaps in 2004?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 964:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 1997?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 965:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 1998?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 966:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 1999?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 967:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 2000?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 968:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 2001?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 969:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 2002?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 970:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 2003?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 971:

To the Minister of Justice: How much did SaskTel charge the Regina and Saskatoon police services for wiretaps in 2004?

Mr. Dearborn, to ask the Government the following Question No. 972:

To the Minister of Health: What steps is the Department of Health taking to provide hantavirus vaccines and raise public awareness of the deer mice infestation in the Heartland Health Authority?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 85 and are to be answered by day no. 90:

Mr. Chisholm, to ask the Government the following Question No. 973:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) Are the former offices of Saskatchewan Learning presently occupied? If so, by whom? (2) Was the asbestos problem addressed prior to the new tenant's occupancy?

Mr. Chisholm, to ask the Government the following Question No. 974:

To the Minister of Learning: What was the total cost, to date, of moving Saskatchewan Learning to its new facilities?

Mr. Hermanson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 975:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What steps are you taking to control the outbreak of an unprecedented deer mouse infestation in west central Saskatchewan that threatens to destroy crops to an even larger extent than last year and which also worries residents about contact with the deadly hantavirus associated with deer mice?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 86 and are to be answered by day no. 91:

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 976:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What was the total cost to build Tatagwa View in Weyburn? (2) What are the details of how the funding was spent?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 977:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many long term care beds are in Tatagwa View in Weyburn? (2) How many beds are there in Tatagwa View for patients requiring mental health services? (3) How many beds are there for palliative care? (4) How many beds are there for respite care?

Ms. Bakken, to ask the Government the following Question No. 978:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many permanent full-time staff members are employed at Tatagwa View in Weyburn and what is the breakdown with respect to job descriptions, categories or classifications? (2) How many part-time staff are employed and what is the breakdown with respect to job descriptions, categories or classifications?

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 979:

To the Minister of Rural Development: (1) How many positions are in this new Department? (2) How many of these positions are new? (3) How many people will be hired by the Department to December 31, 2005?

The following Questions were asked on day no. 87 and are to be answered by day no. 92:

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 980:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: How much money has SGI paid out to date in rebates to people who have renewed their license plates in 2005 to take advantage of the safe-driver discount?

Mr. Morgan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 981:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: How much money would SGI have paid out to date if every person who was eligible for a safe-driver discount would have applied by renewing their license plates prior to the regular expiration date?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 982:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) How many kilometres of highways have been constructed under a "partnership agreement"? (2) Are the financial terms of these "partnership agreements" based on a similar percentage of costs for construction maintenance?

Ms. Draude, to ask the Government the following Question No. 983:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: Has the Department determined if an additional amount allocated for fuel will be part of tenders let for highway construction this year?