



No. 50

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THIRD SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Monday, April 23, 2007

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, Hermanson, Stewart, Harpauer, Eagles, Weekes, Huyghebaert, Allchurch, Kirsch, Brkich and Morgan.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel having favourably reported on the same pursuant to Rule 15(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 fully fund the cancer drug Avastin.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 21)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to upgrade and widen Highway 5 from Humboldt to Saskatoon.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 22)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to build a provincial Children's Hospital in Saskatoon.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 24)

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 see a dialysis unit placed in Broadview Union Hospital.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 27)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to lobby the federal government for tougher sentences for sexual offences against children.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 38)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to repair and maintain Highway 18.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 45)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to keep the SaskPower office in Rosetown open.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 76)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to cease the transfer of patients from one ambulance to another while en route.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 98)

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. 112)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

Bill No. 66 – The Occupational Health and Safety (Harassment Prevention) Amendment Act, 2007

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 1274 to 1295, they were answered. (See Appendix)

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 64 – The Graduate Tax Exemption Act

The Hon. Ms. Atkinson, a member of the Executive Council, having acquainted the Assembly that His 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. 64 – The Graduate Tax Exemption Act – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 65 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2007

The Hon. Mr. Thomson, a member of the Executive Council, having acquainted the Assembly that His 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. 65 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2007 – be now read a second time.

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

INTERIM SUPPLY

The Assembly, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Finance to consider resolutions for Interim Supply.

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Thomson:

That a sum not exceeding one billion, three hundred twenty million, five hundred six thousand dollars be granted to Her Majesty, on account, for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was agreed to.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Thomson:

Resolved, That towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008, the sum of one billion, three hundred twenty million, five hundred six thousand dollars be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

The said resolutions were reported, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again.

THE APPROPRIATION ACT, 2007 (NO. 2)

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Thomson, by leave of the Assembly: That Bill No. 67 – The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 2) – be introduced and read the first time.

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

By leave of the Assembly and pursuant to Rule 57(2), the said Bill was then read a second and third time and passed under its title.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:54 p.m. until Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at 1:30 p.m., pursuant to an Order of the Assembly dated April 18, 2007.

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 Association:

Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 29)

By the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

Annual Report and Financial Statements for SGI Canada for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 156)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Government Insurance Superannuation Plan for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 157)

Financial Statements for Coachman Insurance Company for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 158)

Consolidated Financial Statements for SGI Canada Insurance Services Ltd. for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 159)

Financial Statements for Insurance Company of Prince Edward Island for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 160)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Auto Fund for the year ended December 31, 2006.

(Sessional Paper No. 161)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1274, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McCall:

To the Minister of Corrections and Public Safety: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) Corrections and Public Safety did not purchase any tickets.
- (2) Corrections and Public Safety does not intend to purchase any tickets.
- (3) Corrections and Public Safety does not have any officials that will receive tickets.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1275, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Thomson:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1276, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1277, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Forbes:

To the Minister of Labour: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) The department purchased no tickets for the presentation.
- (2) The department does not intend to purchase tickets for the presentation.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1278, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Serby:

To the Minister of Regional Economic and Co-operative Development: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) One.
- (2) One.
- (3) Departmental employee – title: Strategic Projects.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1279, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) The department purchased nine tickets; six will be used for employee recognition and three went to employees who reimbursed the department.
- (2) The department does not intend to purchase any additional tickets.
- (3) Six staff who made a significant contribution to the development of the Climate Change component of Saskatchewan's Sustainable Energy Strategy.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1280 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cline:

To the Minister of Industry and Resources: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1281 which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Van Mulligen:

To the Minister of Government Relations: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1282, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Beatty:

To the Minister of Northern Affairs: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1283, which was answered by the Premier:

To the Minister of Executive Council: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1284, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Lautermilch:

To the Minister of Highways and Transportation: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed??

Answer:

- (1) The department has not purchased any tickets for the upcoming Al Gore presentation.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1285, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

To the Minister Responsible for Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

The Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) has not purchased any tickets for the Al Gore presentation, nor does SLGA intend to purchase any tickets for the Al Gore presentation.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1286, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Thomson:

To the Minister Responsible for Information Technology Office: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1287, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Lautermilch:

To the Minister of Property Management: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) Six.
- (2) Six.
- (3) Two Environmental Engineers; an Infrared Thermographer; a Building Sciences Professional; Director of Central Vehicle Agency; and an Environmental Health and Safety Officer.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1288, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

To the Minister Responsible for Public Service Commission: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1289, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Belanger:

To the Minister of Community Resources: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1290, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

To the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1291, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Sonntag:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1292, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Atkinson:

To the Minister of Advanced Education and Employment: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1293, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

To the Minister of Learning: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

The department has not and does not intend to purchase tickets to the Al Gore presentation.

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1294, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Addley:

To the Minister of Healthy Living Services: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

Mr. Toth asked the Government the following Question No. 1295, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many tickets has the department purchased for the upcoming Al Gore presentation? (2) How many does it intend to purchase? (3) To whom will the tickets be distributed?

Answer:

- (1) None.
- (2) None.
- (3) N/A

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR A SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

On Thursday:

Ms. Morin to move the following motion:

That this Assembly support the government's plan to strengthen protection in the area of occupational health and safety for workers both in government and in the private sector.

NOTICE OF PRIORITY ITEMS

On Thursday:

No. 1 (Opposition)

Adjourned debate on the proposed **Motion No. 5** of Ms. Heppner:

That the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies undertake an enquiry, pursuant to Rule 146(1), to consider and report on the following matters:

- (a) The government's handling of harassment complaints made by various government employees against Murdoch Carriere;
- (b) The government's treatment of the complainants before, during and after the Murdoch Carriere harassment investigation;
- (c) The government's initial disciplinary action taken against Murdoch Carriere on February 12, 2003;
- (d) The government's subsequent decision to overturn the initial disciplinary action and fire Murdoch Carriere;
- (e) The government's decision to provide Murdoch Carriere with a \$275,000 out-of-court settlement and a full pension, and;

That once the said committee is satisfied it has verified the facts of the matter, it make recommendations in its report as follows:

- (a) The steps that should be taken to learn from and act on mistakes made;
- (b) What should be done to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, a safe and harassment-free workplace for all employees;
- (c) What should be done to ensure that when harassment allegations are made, they are dealt with appropriately, and further;

That pursuant to Rule 146(5) the Committee be instructed to initiate its enquiry immediately.

(Ms. Draude)

Adjourned Once

No. 2 (Government)

Adjourned debate on the proposed **Motion No. 4** of Mr. Trew:

That Saskatchewan's 12 Conservative Members of Parliament provide an apology to the people of this province for breaking their election promise on the issue of equalization; and further, that this Legislative Assembly call upon the Federal government to immediately negotiate a Saskatchewan Energy Accord.

(Hon. Mr. Cline)

Adjourned Twice

No. 3 (Opposition)

Adjourned debate on the proposed **Motion No. 3** of Mr. Morgan:

That this Assembly has lost confidence in the government's ability to manage the province given the most recent population census numbers, and numerous examples of poor accountability to taxpayers, including the mismanagement of the Carriere affair.

(Mr. D'Autremont)

Adjourned Once

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 48 and are to be answered by day no. 53:

Mr. Brkich, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1296:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: Is SaskPower liable for damages to farm equipment if that equipment strikes an overhead power line when passing underneath?

Mr. McMorris, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1297:

To the Minister of Health: What is the breakdown, by profession, of the new health care workers that have been recruited as a result of the recruitment grants provided by the provincial government last October, including the numbers of Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, medical laboratory technologists, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, physical therapists and other professions?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 49 and are to be answered by day no. 54:

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1298:

To the Minister Responsible for Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What are the parameters of the review of *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act*? (2) Specifically, what issues are being reviewed?

Mr. D'Autremont, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1299:

To the Minister Responsible for Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) When is the projected completion date for the review of *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act*? (2) When does SLGA expect to make this review public?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 50 and are to be answered by day no. 55:

Ms. Eagles, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1300:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: What is the proposed date for the start of construction for the clean coal plant at the Shand Power Station at Estevan?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1301:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many individuals purchased green power from SaskPower in 2006?

Ms. Harpauer, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1302:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many organizations – with a breakdown of NGOs, government departments or agencies, and private organizations – purchased green power from SaskPower in 2006?