



No. 62

# **VOTES and PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

**THIRD SESSION – TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE**

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**Tuesday, May 15, 2007**

1:30 p.m.

*PRAYERS*

## **SPEAKER TABLES REPORT**

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the Annual Report of the Children's Advocate for the year 2006.  
(Sessional Paper No. 227)

## **PRESENTING PETITIONS**

Petitions of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following Members: Toth, Hermanson, Stewart, Eagles, Weekes, Cheveldayoff, Elhard, Huyghebaert, Allchurch, Brkich and Duncan.

## **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 ensure that SaskTel provides access to cell phone coverage in the Fishing Lake community.

(Sessional Paper No. 223)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure current crown land lessees maintain their first option to renew those leases.

(Sessional Paper No. 224)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit to building a clean coal power unit at the Poplar River Power Station.

(Sessional Paper No. 225)

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 ensure that Highway 20 be upgraded to primary weight status.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 31)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to implement an allocation of financial resources to build an elementary school in Arbor Creek.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 37)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that lab services are continued at the Lafleche and district health centre.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 79)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to improve timely access to medical treatment.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 188)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to require motor vehicle operators involved in accidents causing injury or fatality to undergo mandatory drug and alcohol level testing.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 189)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that basic education classes continue to be offered at the Estevan campus of the Southeast Regional College.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 210)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that Neville, Admiral, Climax, Tompkins, Piapot and Richmond schools remain open.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 216)

**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY  
RAPPORT DU COMITÉ PERMANENT DE L'ÉCONOMIE**

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. 45 – The Agricultural Societies Repeal Act

Bill No. 52 – The Wildlife Amendment Act, 2007

Projet de loi n° 52 – Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi de 1998 sur la faune

Bill No. 53 – The Miscellaneous Environment Statutes (Inspections and Investigations) Amendment Act, 2007

Bill No. 46 – The Crown Minerals Amendment Act, 2007

Bill No. 48 – The Freehold Oil and Gas Production Tax Amendment Act, 2007

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

Mr. Yates, Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy, presented the Eighth Report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee considered the Estimates of the following Government departments and agencies and adopted the following resolutions:

**Main Estimates, 2007-2008:**

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008, the following sums:

**Executive Branch of Government**

For Agriculture and Food .....	\$298,728,000
For Environment.....	\$202,892,000
For Finance .....	\$171,812,000
For Forestry Secretariat .....	\$2,000,000
For Industry and Resources .....	\$77,576,000
For Labour .....	\$16,816,000
For Regional Economic and Co-operative Development.....	\$12,086,000
For Saskatchewan Research Council.....	\$8,992,000

**Lending and Investing Activities**

For Agriculture and Food.....\$400,000

For Regional Economic and Co-operative Development .....\$5,600,000

Your committee reviewed the following Estimates for which no funds were requested or required to be voted:

**Main Estimates, 2007-2008:****Executive Branch of Government**

For Finance – Servicing the Government Debt (Statutory)

**Fiscal Stabilization Fund Transfer**

For Fiscal Stabilization Fund

**Lending and Investing Activities**

For Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Power Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Water Corporation (Statutory)

For SaskEnergy Incorporated (Statutory)

**Debt Redemption, Sinking Fund and Interest Payments**

For Finance – Debt Redemption (Statutory)

For Finance – Sinking Fund Payments – Government Share (Statutory)

For Finance – Interest on Gross Debt – Crown Enterprise Share (Statutory)

Your Committee recommends that upon concurrence of its report by the Assembly, the sums as reported and approved shall be included in the Appropriation Bill for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 228)

On motion of Mr. Yates, seconded by Mr. Weekes:

Ordered, That the Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be now concurred in.

### REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

The following Bill was reported with amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was considered as amended and read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 31 – The Regional Health Services Amendment Act, 2006 (No. 2)

Ms. Junor, Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services presented the Tenth Report of the said Committee which is as follows:

Your Committee considered the Estimates of the following Government departments and agencies and adopted the following resolutions:

#### Main Estimates, 2007-2008:

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008, the following sums:

For Advanced Education and Employment .....	\$668,197,000
For Community Resources .....	\$625,414,000
For Corrections and Public Safety.....	\$170,397,000
For Culture, Youth and Recreation.....	\$90,173,000
For Health.....	\$3,463,600,000
For Learning .....	\$837,641,000

#### Lending and Investing Activities

For Advanced Education and Employment .....	\$56,000,000
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Your Committee recommends that upon concurrence of its report by the Assembly, the sums as reported and approved shall be included in the Appropriation Bill for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 229)

On motion of Ms. Junor, seconded by Mr. Elhard:

Ordered, That the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

### WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 1480 to 1484, they were answered. (See Appendix)

### AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND PROCEDURES

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hagel, seconded by Mr. Gantefoer, by leave of the Assembly:

Ordered, That Rules 6(3), 21(4), 22(4), 23(2) and 60 of *The Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan* be replaced with the following:

Designated holidays	<b>6(3)</b> The Assembly shall not meet on the following designated days: New Year's Day; Family Day; Good Friday; the week after Easter; Victoria Day; Canada Day; Saskatchewan Day; Labour Day; Thanksgiving Day; Remembrance Day; Christmas Day; and Boxing Day.
Notice requirements	<b>21(4)</b> Notices of priority items of business designated under this rule is to be provided in writing and tabled no later than 2:30 p.m. each Tuesday. When the Assembly does not sit on a Tuesday, the terms of this Rule shall be applied on the preceding sitting day.
Notice	<b>22(4)</b> Notice of motion may be given orally in the Legislative Assembly under Routine Proceedings on the preceding Tuesday, and the written notice shall be tabled no later than 2:30 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday. When the Assembly does not sit on a Tuesday, the terms of this Rule shall be applied on the preceding sitting day. Notwithstanding anything else herein contained, notice of the debate may be waived with unanimous consent.
Notice of Private Members' Motions	<b>23(2)</b> Notices for Private Members' Motions shall be tabled no later than 2:30 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the Thursday on which the motion is to be debated and, where more than one notice is tabled, Government and Opposition notices will be listed alternately on the Order Paper. When the Assembly does not sit on a Tuesday, the terms of this Rule shall be applied on the preceding sitting day.
Motions: notices required for	<b>60</b> Two sitting days notice shall be given of a motion for first reading of a bill, a motion for a resolution, order or address, or for the appointment of any committee; but this shall not apply to public bills, after their introduction, or to private bills, or to the times of meeting or adjournment of the Assembly, or to notice provisions otherwise specified by the Rules. Such notice shall be laid on the table and be printed in the Votes and Proceedings of that day.

And further;

That the amendments to the Rules and practices of the Legislative Assembly, as specified by this motion, be adopted and brought into force effective immediately.

### COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

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

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008, the sum of \$8,612,000 for Executive Council (Ordinary).

Summary of Resolutions adopted:

**GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

**MAIN ESTIMATES 2007-2008**

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT**

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008 the following sums:

**BUDGETARY EXPENSES**

1.	For Advanced Education and Employment .....	\$668,197,000
2.	For Agriculture and Food .....	298,728,000
3.	For Community Resources .....	625,414,000
4.	For Corrections and Public Safety .....	170,397,000
5.	For Culture, Youth and Recreation .....	90,173,000
6.	For Environment .....	202,892,000
7.	For Executive Council .....	8,612,000
8.	For Finance .....	171,812,000
9.	For First Nations and Métis Relations .....	51,694,000
10.	For Forestry Secretariat .....	2,000,000
11.	For Government Relations .....	248,464,000
12.	For Health .....	3,463,600,000
13.	For Highways and Transportation .....	248,294,000
14.	For Industry and Resources .....	77,576,000
15.	For Information Technology Office .....	5,288,000
16.	For Justice .....	238,671,000
17.	For Labour .....	16,816,000
18.	For Learning .....	837,641,000
19.	For Northern Affairs .....	6,031,000
20.	For Property Management .....	40,604,000

21.	For Public Service Commission.....	15,381,000
22.	For Regional Economic and Co-operative Development .....	12,086,000
23.	For Saskatchewan Research Council .....	8,992,000

#### **LENDING AND INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

24.	For Advanced Education and Employment .....	\$56,000,000
25.	For Agriculture and Food.....	\$400,000
26.	For Highways and Transportation.....	1,000,000
27.	For Northern Affairs .....	2,500,000
28.	For Regional Economic and Co-operative Development .....	5,600,000

#### **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT**

29.	For Children's Advocate.....	\$1,290,000
30.	For Conflict of Interest Commissioner.....	138,000
31.	For Information and Privacy Commissioner.....	675,000
32.	For Legislative Assembly .....	7,620,000
33.	For Ombudsman.....	1,775,000
34.	For Provincial Auditor .....	6,360,000

#### **GENERAL REVENUE FUND**

#### **MAJOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2009:

1.	For Highways and Transportation Capital .....	\$185,305,000
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Moved by the Hon. Mr. Thomson:

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 six billion, three hundred three million, ninety-nine thousand dollars be granted out of the General Revenue Fund.

The question being put, it was agreed to, on Division.



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, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009, the sum of one hundred fifty-four million, four hundred twenty-one 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. 3)**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Thomson, by leave of the Assembly: That Bill No. 69 – The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 3) – 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 69(2), the said Bill was then read a second time and third time and passed under its title.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hagel:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

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The Assembly adjourned at 5:01 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

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

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### **RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED**

The following paper was laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Cline:

Purchase and Sale Agreement dated November 30, 2006, between Meadow Lake Pulp Limited Partnership, by its manager and lawful attorney Meadow Lake Pulp Ltd. and Meadow Lake Pulp Ltd. and 6551017 Canada Inc. and Investment Saskatchewan Inc. and 101069101 Saskatchewan Ltd.

(Sessional Paper No. 231)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Mr. Brkich asked the Government the following Question No. 1480, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What was the number of applicants for the Crop Insurance Program for the year 2005?

Answer:

30,517

**Mr. Brkich asked the Government the following Question No. 1481, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What was the number of applicants for the Crop Insurance Program for the year 2006?

Answer:

28,317

**Mr. Brkich asked the Government the following Question No. 1482, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Wartman:**

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: What is the number of applicants for the Crop Insurance Program for the year 2007 to date?

Answer:

27,804

**Ms. Heppner asked the Government the following Question No. 1483, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Thomson:**

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many \$45.00 rebates for EnergyStar qualified programmable thermostats were given out during the duration of the rebate program (September 1, 2005 to March 31, 2007)?

Answer:

Between September 1, 2005 and April 30, 2007 – 14,899 customers participated in the SaskEnergy Programmable Thermostat Rebate Program.

**Ms. Heppner asked the Government the following Question No. 1484, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Nilson:**

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many wall-mounted household thermostats that contain mercury were turned into SaskPower's Mercury Thermostat Recovery Program during the time SaskPower was offering \$45.00 rebates for EnergyStar qualified programmable thermostats (September 1, 2005 to March 31, 2007)?

Answer:

SaskPower has collected 1,245 household thermostats since the beginning of this recycling program.

## NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 59 and are to be answered by day no. 64:**

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1486:

To the Premier: Why is Jim Fodey receiving a severance payment if he resigned?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1487:

To the Premier: Does the Premier believe that his caucus is required to follow the Board of Internal Economy directive passed in December 2006, stating that severance is payable “when a caucus terminates the employment of a caucus employee without cause”?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1488:

To the Premier: What was the cost to the Government of Saskatchewan for the facility rental, advertising and promotion for the Al Gore event?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1489:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Corporation: What were the total expenses and the total net expenses to SaskTel for bringing Al Gore to Regina?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1490:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Corporation: What was the cost to SaskTel for the facility rental, advertising and promotion for the Al Gore event?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1491:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Corporation: What was the total profit/loss for the Al Gore event in Regina?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1492:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Corporation: What was the total amount paid to bring Al Gore to Regina?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1493:

To the Premier: What was the cost to the Government of Saskatchewan for bringing Al Gore to Saskatchewan?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1494:

To the Premier: What was the total profit/loss of the Al Gore event?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1495:

To the Premier: What was the total amount paid to Al Gore, in both American and Canadian dollars?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1496:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many full-time customer service representatives were employed at the Weyburn SaskPower office as of January 1, 2007?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1497:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many full-time customer service representatives were employed at the Weyburn SaskPower office as of January 1, 2006?

Mr. Duncan, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1498:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Power Corporation: How many full-time customer service representatives were employed at the Weyburn SaskPower office as of January 1, 2005?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1499:

To the Minister of Finance: Why did SaskPen Properties Ltd. deny the Provincial Auditor access to its financial records for auditing purposes in 2006?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1500:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in the year 2002? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1501:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in the year 2006? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1502:

To the Minister of Community Resources: (1) How much was each board member of 4 Directions Child and Family Services Incorporated paid for services, per diems, honoraria and other expenses? (2) What is the breakdown of the expenses paid to each board member?

Mr. Elhard, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1503:

To the Minister of Community Resources: Who are the board members of 4 Directions Child and Family Services Incorporated?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1504:

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 Integrated Health facility on that list?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1505:

To the Minister of Finance: (1) Has the Minister investigated the budget leak as he promised on March 20, 2007? (2) What were the findings?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1506:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in 2007 to date? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1507:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in the year 2004? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1508:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in the year 2003? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?

Mr. Toth, to ask the Government the following Question No. 1509:

To the Minister of Agriculture and Food: (1) How many appeals were made on crop insurance rulings in the year 2005? (2) How many of these rulings were denied or settled?