



No. 21

# VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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**Monday, April 7, 2008**

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: Higgins, Iwanchuk, Calvert and Forbes.

## READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Clerk having favourably examined the same pursuant to Rule 16(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 funding for the expansion and renovation of the Moose Jaw Union Hospital.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 87)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to withdraw Bill Nos. 5 and 6 and hold broad public consultations about labour relations in the province.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 89)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately restore funding to the Station 20 project.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 111)

**GOVERNMENT MOTION**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Gantefoer:

That the *Rules and Procedures* for the sitting times of the Assembly and the sitting times for standing committees shall be varied on an interim basis for the remainder of the First Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature as follows:

1. Notwithstanding Rule 6(1), the ordinary times for the daily meetings and adjournments of the sitting of the Assembly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays shall be 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight, with a recess from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;
2. Standing committees shall meet and adjourn at the following times when convened:
  - a. On Thursdays: 2:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight, with a recess from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;
  - b. On Fridays: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
3. By order, the Assembly and standing committees may adjourn earlier than the adjournment times specified by this sessional order; and further,

That the provisions of this sessional order shall come into effect the sitting day after its adoption and shall expire upon the adjournment of the Assembly on the sitting day preceding the “Completion Day” of the First Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature.

A debate arising on the motion, the Assembly recessed from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The debate being resumed on the motion, the Acting Speaker interrupted proceedings and adjourned the Assembly without question put, pursuant to Rule 6(6).

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The Assembly adjourned at 10:30 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

***Hon. Don Toth***  
***Speaker***

## **NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS**

On Wednesday:

Hon. Mr. Bjornerud to move First Reading of Bill No. 22 – The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson to move First Reading of Bill No. 23 – The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2008

Hon. Mr. Norris to move First Reading of Bill No. 24 – The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)

Hon. Ms. Heppner to move First Reading of Bill No. 25 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008

## **NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 19 and are to be answered by day no. 24:**

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 549:

To the Minister of Social Services: On March 20<sup>th</sup>, The Minister of Social Services said in Question Period:

“[...] but in the Estimates book the Sask Housing Corporation does not list their numbers in that document. However, there is \$71.5 million being spent on an existing 856 units that are in development as we speak. There’s an additional \$47.5 million that’s being dedicated. Going forward, we have 84 submissions on different groups that want to partner with government on different housing units. We’re putting out an expression of interest to spend an additional \$18.4 million on Métis housing and First Nations housing. Mr. Speaker, that’s \$137.4 million.”

For the 856 units in development: (1) What are the project names? (2) Where are the projects located (community and street address)? (3) When were the projects tendered? (4) What is the expected completion date for each project? (5) What is the value of each project? (6) How many people will be accommodated by each project? (7) In which budget year were funds committed for each project?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 550:

To the Minister of Social Services: On March 20<sup>th</sup>, The Minister of Social Services said in Question Period:

“[...] but in the Estimates book the Sask Housing Corporation does not list their numbers in that document. However, there is \$71.5 million being spent on an existing 856 units that are in development as we speak. There’s an additional \$47.5 million that’s being dedicated. Going forward, we have 84 submissions on different groups that want to partner with government on different housing units. We’re putting out an expression of interest to spend an additional \$18.4 million on Métis housing and First Nations housing. Mr. Speaker, that’s \$137.4 million.”

(1) In what document is \$137.4 million listed? (2) In what budget year was the \$71.5 million that the Minister is referring to committed? (3) What was the \$71.5 budgeted for at that time?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 551:

To the Premier: With regard to the transition team, what are the names of all: (1) Elected officials? (2) Unelected officials? (3) Government employees (both past and present)? (4) Contracted personnel? (5) People who will eventually be remunerated for their work on the transition team?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 552:

To the Premier: With regard to the transition team, can you please provide the names of people who did work but have not yet been compensated?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 553:

To the Premier: With regard to the transition team: (1) How many legal opinions were provided by Justice, or provided by outside council that was paid for by the government? (2) How many of each type of contracts were there?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 554:

To the Premier: According to the Deputy Premier on page no. 374 of the March 18, 2008 *Hansard*, there were three types of people that were involved in the transition team: people who volunteered and provided services, people who were contracted, and people who assisted from law firms. (1) How many members of the transition team fell into each of these three categories? (2) What are the names of the people in each category?

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 21 and are to be answered by day no. 26:**

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 555:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many patients were turned away per service or department from Royal University Hospital for each day of the 2007 University of Saskatchewan labour strike? (2) What were the services or departments that were affected? (3) What were the services or departments that were not affected?

Mr. Harper, to ask the Government the following Question No. 556:

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) How many injuries and deaths occurred on grid roads in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

Mr. Harper, to ask the Government the following Question No. 557:

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) How many injuries and deaths occurred on highways in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

Mr. Harper, to ask the Government the following Question No. 558:

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) How many injuries and deaths occurred on municipal roads in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 559:

To the Minister of Social Services: In which communities in Saskatchewan are each of the FTEs for Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch, as of March 1, 2008, located?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 560:

To the Minister of Social Services: What is the intended number of term employees for Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch by March 1, 2009?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 561:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many term employees did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of April 1, 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 562:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many term employees did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of March 1, 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 563:

To the Minister of Social Services: What is the intended number of full-time employees for Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch by March 1, 2009?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 564:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many full-time employees did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of April 1, 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 565:

To the Minister of Social Services: On April 2, 2008, the Minister announced, "Cabinet has approved revisions to her Ministry's Income Assistance Modernization Strategy that will lead to improved services for clients. Changes to benefits under the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan are being deferred pending further consultation with staff and stakeholders." What are the communication plans for the Minister to announce publicly any further changes prior to implementation so staff, stakeholders and clients may be fully aware of the changes?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 566:

To the Minister of Social Services: On April 2, 2008, the Minister announced, "Cabinet has approved revisions to her Ministry's Income Assistance Modernization Strategy that will lead to improved services for clients. Changes to benefits under the Saskatchewan Assistance Plan are being deferred pending further consultation with staff and stakeholders." Please describe the consultation process, as cited in the above statement for stakeholders by answering the following: (1) Who are the stakeholders referred to in the press release? (Please name them) (2) When will meetings be held? (3) Who will be invited? (4) Will there be public notice given for the consultation process? (5) How will the ministry fully consult its staff?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 567:

To the Minister of Social Services: On April 2, 2008, the Minister announced that Cabinet has approved revisions to her Ministry's Income Assistance Modernization Strategy. (1) Will the strategy still be known as the "Modernization Strategy"? (2) What other names will it be known as?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 568:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many calls were logged to the Housing Information Line in the month of September 2007? (2) October 2007? (3) November 2007? (4) December 2007? (5) January 2008? (6) February 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 569:

To the Minister of Social Services: What is the intended number of part-time employees for Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch by March 1, 2009?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 570:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many part-time employees did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of April 1, 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 571:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many part-time employees did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of March 1, 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 572:

To the Minister of Social Services: How many FTEs did the Employment and Support and Income Assistance branch have as of March 1, 2008?

Ms. Higgins, to ask the Government the following Question No. 573:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What were the salary and benefit expenses for South Hill Liquor Store (Store 562) in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08?

Ms. Higgins, to ask the Government the following Question No. 574:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What were the operating expenses for South Hill Liquor Store (Store 562) in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08?

Ms. Higgins, to ask the Government the following Question No. 575:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What the net income from South Hill Liquor Store (Store 562) in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08?

Ms. Higgins, to ask the Government the following Question No. 576:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What the net income for each liquor store in the province for 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08?

Ms. Higgins, to ask the Government the following Question No. 577:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority: (1) What did SLGA spend on repair and maintenance work related to the South Hill Liquor store in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08?