



No. 24

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Thursday, April 10, 2008

10:00 a.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, Taylor and Trew.

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 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)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to reassess its decision to close the South Hill liquor store in Moose Jaw.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 130)

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. 26 – The Midwifery Amendment Act, 2008

(Hon. Mr. McMorris)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question No. 549, the answer was tabled and, by reason of its length, converted by the Clerk to Return No. 34 pursuant to Rule 20(6).

(Sessional Paper No. 138)

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 550 to 554, they were answered. (See Appendix)

SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE

The Order of the Day being called for the following Motion for a Seventy-five Minute Debate, it was moved by Ms. Junor:

That this Assembly call on the government to restore funding to the Station 20 project in Saskatoon.

A debate arising, it was moved by Ms. Schriemer, in amendment thereto:

That the motion be amended by deleting all the words after “That” and the following substituted therefor:

“this government is committed to improving the social and health services delivered to persons in our inner cities and communities and to address the social problems that were not addressed under the previous provincial government.”

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, and the period of seventy-five minutes having expired, pursuant to Rule 24(4) the Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings.

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ MOTION

The Order of the Day being called for **Motion No. 2**, it was moved by Mr. Weekes:

That the government be commended for recognizing the immediate and future need to invest in the infrastructure of the province, neglected under the previous administration, and to ensure Saskatchewan sustains its growth.

A debate arising, the Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and adjourned the Assembly without question put, pursuant to Rule 6(6).

The Assembly adjourned at 1:00 p.m. until Monday at 10:00 a.m. pursuant to an Order of the Assembly dated April 9, 2008.

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 550, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: On March 20th, 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?

Answer:

- (1) Ministerial Briefings.
- (2) Saskatchewan Housing Corporation budget years 2005, 2006, 2007.
- (3) Affordable Housing Development.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 551, which was answered by the Premier:

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?

Answer:

- (1) Honourable Brad Wall and Honourable Ken Krawetz assisted with the transition process.
- (2) Unable to define the term “unelected officials”.
- (3) After November 21, 2007, the Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary and the Chief of Staff to the Premier assisted with the transition process along with a number of government employees who were asked for information, assistance or advice.
- (4) Doug Emsley, Tracy Pugh, Ron Larson and Ruth Klassen-Burwell were contracted to assist with the transition process.
- (5) McLean Keith – lead counsel Kenneth G. Love, Q.C. (until appointment to Labour Relations Board); MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP – lead counsel Brian Barrington-Foote, Q.C.; McDougall Gauley LLP – lead counsel James Rybchuk; McKercher LLP – lead counsel Peter Whitmore, Q.C. (until appointment to Court of Queen’s Bench); Robertson Stromberg Pedersen LLP – lead counsel David Bishop.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 552, which was answered by the Premier:

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?

Answer:

McLean Keith – lead counsel Kenneth G. Love, Q.C. (until appointment to Labour Relations Board); MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP – lead counsel Brian Barrington-Foote, Q.C.; McDougall Gauley LLP – lead counsel James Rybchuk; McKercher LLP – lead counsel Peter Whitmore, Q.C. (until appointment to Court of Queen’s Bench); Robertson Stromberg Pedersen LLP – lead counsel David Bishop.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 553, which was answered by the Premier:

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

Answer:

- (1) Legal advice on a number of issues was provided both by Ministry of Justice lawyers and by outside counsel.
- (2) Five outside legal firms were retained.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 554, which was answered by the Premier:

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?

Answer:

- (1) The Deputy Premier is not recorded as speaking on page 374 of *Hansard*.
- (2) The Deputy Premier is not recorded as speaking on page 374 of *Hansard*.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Tuesday:

Hon. Ms. Tell move First Reading of Bill No. 33 – The Active Families Benefit Act

Hon. Mr. Gantefer to move First Reading of Bill No. 36 – The Corporation Capital Tax Amendment Act, 2008

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 22 and are to be answered by day no. 27:

Mr. Quennell, to ask the Government the following Question No. 578:

To the Minister of Enterprise and Innovation: How long are the appointments of each individual Enterprise Saskatchewan member?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 579:

To the Minister of Health: How much money was transferred on April 1, 2008 from each Saskatchewan Regional Health Authority to its respective SUN-RHA fund?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 580:

To the Minister of Health: How much money was transferred on April 1, 2008 from the Ministry of Health to each of the SUN-RHA funds outlined in the Government of Saskatchewan SUN MOU?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 581:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What is the process for filling the vacancy on the Saskatchewan Regional Health Authority Board? (2) What names are being considered?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 582:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many paramedics were hired into RN/RPN vacancies per region since November 1, 2007? (2) On what units and at what facilities were they hired?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 583:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many LPNs were hired into RN/RPN vacancies per region since November 1, 2007? (2) On what units and at what facilities were they hired?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 584:

To the Minister of Health: (1) What is the baseline RN/RPN number per unit at the Regina General Hospital? (2) Pasqua Hospital? (3) Royal University Hospital? (4) Saskatoon City Hospital? (5) St. Paul's Hospital?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 585:

To the Minister of Health: What was the baseline RN/RPN number for each health region as of November 1, 2007?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 586:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many RPN vacancies were there as of September 30, 2007? (2) October 31, 2007? (3) November 30, 2007? (4) December 31, 2007? (5) January 31, 2008? (6) February 29, 2008?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 587:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many RN vacancies were there as of September 30, 2007? (2) October 31, 2007? (3) November 30, 2007? (4) December 31, 2007? (5) January 31, 2008? (6) February 29, 2008?

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BILLS

Bills that have been introduced are listed alphabetically along with the Bill number. To find what stage a Bill is at, refer to the Progress of Bills chart.

** Specified Bill – must be voted on before Completion Day*

	TITLE	DATE CONSIDERED	BILL NO.
	Administration of Estates Amendment Act, 2008 / Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi sur l'administration des successions	Apr. 1, 2008	20
	Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 4)	Dec. 20, 2007	7
	Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 1)	Mar. 18, 2008	16
	Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 9, 2008	901
	Consumer Protection Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 13, 2008	12
	Enforcement of Canadian Judgments Amendment Act, 2008 / Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 2002 sur l'exécution des jugements canadiens	Mar. 13, 2008	11
*	Enterprise Saskatchewan Act	Dec. 17, 2007, Mar. 12, 2008	2
*	Growth and Financial Security Act	Dec. 13, 2007, Mar. 10, 2008	1
	Highways and Transportation Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 20, 2008	17
	Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 9, 2008	22
*	Legislative Assembly and Executive Council (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2007 / Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi de 2007 sur l'Assemblée législative et le Conseil exécutif (élections à date fixe)	Dec. 18, 2007, Mar. 10, 2008	4
	Midwifery Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 10, 2008	26
	Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 12, 17, 2008	10
*	Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 9, 2008	23
	Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 12, 17, 2008	8
	Northern Municipalities Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 18, 2008	15
*	Potash Development Repeal Act	Dec. 17, 2007, Mar. 18, 2008	3
	Public Service Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 2, 2008	18
*	Public Service Essential Services Act	Dec. 19, 2007, Mar. 11, 12, 2008	5
	Saskatchewan Association of School Board Officials Repeal Act	Mar. 18, 2008	14
	Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 31, 2008	19
	Superannuation (Supplementary Provisions) Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 12, 17, 2008	9

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BILLS

Bills that have been introduced are listed alphabetically along with the Bill number. To find what stage a Bill is at, refer to the Progress of Bills chart.

** Specified Bill – must be voted on before Completion Day*

TITLE		DATE CONSIDERED	BILL NO.
	Teachers' Life Insurance (Government Contributory) Amendment Act, 2008	Mar. 17, 2008	13
	Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 2, 2008	21
*	Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007	Dec. 19, 2007, Mar. 11, 2008	6
	Trade Union Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)	Apr. 9, 2008	24
	Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008	Apr. 9, 2008	25

PROGRESS OF BILLS

Bill comes into force on:

A—Assent P—Proclamation SD—Specific Date SE—Specific Event

Committees:

CF: Committee of Finance

CW: Committee of the Whole

HOS: House Services

IAJ: Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice

CCA: Crown and Central Agencies

HUS: Human Services

PBC: Private Bills

ECO: Economy

* **Specified Bills:** must be voted on before Completion Day

GOVERNMENT BILLS

No.	*	Title	Member	1st Reading	Crown Recomm.	Comm.	2nd Reading	Comm.	Amdt.	3rd Reading	Royal Assent	In Effect
1	*	The Growth and Financial Security Act	Gantefoer	Dec. 13/07	Mar. 10/08							
2	*	The Enterprise Saskatchewan Act	Stewart	Dec. 17/07	Mar. 12/08							
3	*	The Potash Development Repeal Act	Boyd	Dec. 17/04								
4	*	The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2007 / Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi de 2007 sur l'Assemblée législative et le Conseil exécutif (élections à date fixe)	Morgan	Dec. 18/04								
5	*	The Public Service Essential Services Act	Norris	Dec. 19/07								
6	*	The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2007	Norris	Dec. 19/07								
7		The Appropriation Act, 2007 (No. 4)	Gantefoer	Dec. 20/07			Dec. 20/07	CF Dec. 20/07		Dec. 20/07	Dec. 20/07	A
8		The Natural Resources Amendment Act, 2008	Heppner	Mar. 12/08								
9		The Superannuation (Supplementary Provisions) Amendment Act, 2008	Gantefoer	Mar. 12/08								
10		The Miscellaneous Pensions Statutes (Commencement of Pension) Amendment Act, 2008	Gantefoer	Mar. 12/08								

GOVERNMENT BILLS

No.	*	Title	Member	1st Reading	Crown Recomm.	Comm.	2nd Reading	Comm.	Amdt.	3rd Reading	Royal Assent	In Effect
11		The Enforcement of Canadian Judgments Amendment Act, 2008 / Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 2002 sur l'exécution des jugements canadiens	Morgan	Mar. 13/08								
12		The Consumer Protection Amendment Act, 2008	Morgan	Mar. 13/08								
13		The Teachers' Life Insurance (Government Contributory) Amendment Act, 2008	Krawetz	Mar. 17/08								
14		The Saskatchewan Association of School Board Officials Repeal Act	Krawetz	Mar. 18/08								
15		The Northern Municipalities Amendment Act, 2008	Hutchinson	Mar. 18/08								
16		The Appropriation Act, 2008 (No. 1)	Gantefer	Mar. 18/08			Mar. 18/08	CF Mar.18/08		Mar. 18/08	Mar. 18/08	A-SD
17		The Highways and Transportation Amendment Act, 2008	Elhard	Mar. 20/08								
18		The Public Service Amendment Act, 2008	Elhard	Apr. 2/08								
19		The Social Workers Amendment Act, 2008	Harpauer	Mar. 31/08								
20		The Administration of Estates Amendment Act, 2008 / Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi sur l'administration des successions	Morgan	Apr. 1/08								
21		The Teachers Superannuation and Disability Benefits Amendment Act, 2008	Krawetz	Apr. 2/08								
22		The Irrigation Amendment Act, 2008	Bjornerud	Apr. 9/08								
23	*	The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2008	Hutchinson	Apr. 9/08								
24		The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)	Norris	Apr. 9/08								

GOVERNMENT BILLS

25		The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008	Heppner	Apr. 9/08								
26		The Midwifery Amendment Act, 2008	McMorris	Apr. 10/08								

PRIVATE BILLS

No.	Title	Member	PBC	1st Reading	2nd Reading	PBC	Comm.	3rd Reading	Royal Assent	In Effect
901	The Briercrest College and Seminary Amendment Act, 2008	Michelson	Apr. 9/08	Apr. 9/08						