



No. 31

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, April 23, 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, Yates and Atkinson.

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)

SPEAKER TABLES REPORT

The Speaker laid before the Assembly the Annual Report for Provincial Ombudsman Saskatchewan for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 164)

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
(Appropriateness of Statement by Minister)

Before Orders of the Day, I wish to address a concern I have regarding the appropriateness of the statement made by the Minister of the Environment (Hon. Ms. Heppner) during yesterday's proceedings.

The Minister's comments outlined a number of initiatives undertaken by the government in the environmental field and noted that April 22 was marked around the world as Earth Day. The comments were made during the period reserved for Ministerial Statements.

In reviewing the statement made by the Minister, I find that it did not announce any new policy, initiatives or programmes as required by the practices of this Assembly. Instead, the initiatives identified had been previously announced, either during the Speech from the Throne, the presentation of the budget or in a separate event.

I remind Members of my statement of December 19, in which I outlined the Assembly's practice regarding statements by individual Members and by Ministers. At that time, the period set aside for Ministerial Statements was described as an opportunity for Ministers "... to advise the Assembly of matters relating to government policy, ministerial action or to announce a new direction or programme. Ministers are not permitted to use this period to comment on matters that have previously been announced or to make congratulatory messages."

Members will appreciate the difficulty faced by the Speaker in determining the appropriateness of a Ministerial Statement as it is being delivered. Often it is only once a statement is well under way or has been completed that I may identify whether or not a new policy or direction has been announced. Compounding my difficulty is the need to ensure fairness to the Opposition by affording their representative an equal opportunity to respond.

In reviewing the record, I find that Environment Minister's statement did not meet the requirements for a Ministerial Statement. It could, however, have been made by seeking leave prior to Orders of the Day. In the future, I caution Ministers to ensure that they choose the appropriate time to deliver their statements.

SECOND READINGS / DEUXIÈME LECTURE

Bill No. 34 – The Graduate Retention Program Act

The Hon. Mr. Norris, 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. 34 – The Graduate Retention Program Act – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 31 – The Executive Government Administration Act

The Hon. Mr. Morgan, 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. 31 – The Executive Government Administration Act – be now read a second time.

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

**Bill No. 32 – The Executive Government Administration Consequential Amendment Act, 2008
Projet de loi n° 32 – Loi de 2008 apportant des modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Executive Government Administration Act**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 32 – The Executive Government Administration Consequential Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

L'hon. M. Morgan propose: Que le projet de loi n° 32 – Loi de 2008 apportant des modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Executive Government Administration Act – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

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

Il s'élève un débat et sur motion de M. Yates, le débat est ajourné.

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 35 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: That Bill No. 35 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

By designation of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer, in accordance with Rule 81, Bill No. 35 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2008 – was committed to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Bill No. 38 – The Corporate Capital Tax Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: That Bill No. 38 – The Corporate Capital Tax Act – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

By designation of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer, in accordance with Rule 81, Bill No. 38 – The Corporate Capital Tax Act – was committed to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Bill No. 29 – The Education Amendment Act, 2008
Projet de loi n° 29 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l'éducation

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz: That Bill No. 29 – The Education Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. Krawetz: Que le projet de loi n° 29 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l'éducation – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

Le débat se poursuit et la motion, mise aux voix, est adoptée et, en conséquence, ledit projet de loi est lu une deuxième fois.

By designation of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz, in accordance with Rule 81, Bill No. 29 – The Education Amendment Act, 2008 – was committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

Selon la désignation de l'hon. M. Krawetz, conformément au règlement 81, le projet de loi n° 29 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l'éducation – est renvoyé au Comité permanent des affaires intergouvernementales et de la justice.

Bill No. 25 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Heppner: That Bill No. 25 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 27 – The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008
Projet de loi n° 27 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. D'Autremont: That Bill No. 27 – The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. M. D'Autremont: Que le projet de loi n° 27 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

Le débat se poursuit et la motion, mise aux voix, est adoptée et, en conséquence, ledit projet de loi est lu une deuxième fois.

By designation of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz, in accordance with Rule 81, Bill No. 27 – The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Amendment Act, 2008 – was committed to the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Selon la désignation de l'hon. M. Krawetz, conformément au règlement 81, le projet de loi n° 27 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1997 sur la réglementation des boissons alcoolisées et des jeux de hasard – est renvoyé au Comité permanent des sociétés d'état et des organismes centraux.

Bill No. 24 – The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris: That Bill No. 24 – The Trade Union Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2) – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Morin, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:56 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

Annual Report for SaskTel for the year ended December 31, 2007 and Consolidated Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 155)

Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Telecommunications for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 156)

Consolidated Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Telecommunications International, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 157)

Financial Statements for DirectWest Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 158)

Financial Statements for DirectWest Canada, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 159)

Financial Statements for SecurTek Monitoring Solutions Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 160)

Financial Statements for Hospitality Network Canada Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 161)

Financial Statements for Saskatoon 2 Properties Limited Partnership for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 162)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Telecommunications Pension Board for the year ended December 31, 2007.
(Sessional Paper No. 163)

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 29 and are to be answered by day no. 34:

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 588:

To the Minister of Health: In the answer to written question No. 240, the Minister provided a list of people who went on a recruitment agency trip to southeast Asia. The only person listed who did not belong to a government agency was Linda West, who was listed as a consultant. (1) For what purpose was Linda West on this trip? (2) Were her travel expenses covered by the government of Saskatchewan? (3) If so, how much were those expenses? (4) Was Linda West ever employed by the provincial government? (5) If so, in what capacity and for what period of time was she employed?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 589:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How much less money was spent on salaries and wages for each day of the 2007 University of Saskatchewan labour strike? (2) What departments had wage and/or salary money not spent as a result of the strike? (3) What departments were not affected?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 590:

To the Premier: According to the Deputy Premier on page 347 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? (3) How many people all told were involved in the transition team?

Mr. Trew, to ask the Government the following Question No. 591:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) For the recent clean coal announcement, what is the total cost of the project? (2) What percentage of that is being sought from SaskPower? (3) The government of Canada? (4) The province of Saskatchewan? (5) Other sources?

Mr. Harper, to ask the Government the following Question No. 592:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) How many injuries and deaths occurred on municipal roads in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

Mr. Harper, to ask the Government the following Question No. 593:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (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. 594:

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance: (1) How many injuries and deaths occurred on grid roads in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 30 and are to be answered by day no. 35:

Mr. Nilson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 595:

To the Minister of Justice: Has the government provided any financial payment to Mr. Richard Klassen and his family since November 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 596:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What legal opinion was sought prior to terminating the province's financial support for the Friends of the Canadian Wheat Board legal case against the federal government over its handling of changes to the Board's single desk marketing authority?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 597:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What consultations, discussions or meetings took place with members of the Canadian Wheat Board, Friends of the Canadian Wheat Board, or other farm groups in the month of November 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 598:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What projects, products and other services are undertaken by the Saskatchewan Organic Directorate?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 599:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How much money has the province provided to the Saskatchewan Organic Directorate since its inception?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 600:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What is the total amount of funding received under the Agricultural New Generation Co-operatives Program?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 601:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What projects have received funding under the Agricultural New Generation Co-operatives Program, with a breakdown for each year?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 602:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What is the total amount of funding received under the Agri-Food Innovation Fund?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 603:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What projects have received funding under the Agri-Food Innovation Fund since its inception, with a breakdown for each year?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 604:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many applications were successful under the Agriculture Development Fund since its inception, with a breakdown for each year and for each of the three programs under the fund?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 605:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many applications were submitted under the Agriculture Development Fund since its inception, with a breakdown for each year and for each of the three programs under the fund?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 606:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many applications have been granted under the SaskBIO program since its inception?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 607:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many applications have been sought under the SaskBIO program since its inception?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 608:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What was the average Crop Insurance indemnity in 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 609:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What was the average Crop Insurance indemnity in 2006?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 610:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What was the average Crop Insurance claim in 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 611:

To the Minister of Agriculture: What was the average Crop Insurance claim in 2006?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 612:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many Crop Insurance claims were made in 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 613:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many Crop Insurance claims were made in 2006?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 614:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many producers were insured under the Crop Insurance program in 2007?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 615:

To the Minister of Agriculture: How many producers were insured under the Crop Insurance program in 2006?