



No. 34

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

FIRST SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, April 29, 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: Morin, Higgins and Broten.

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)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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:

Bill No. 13 – The Teachers’ Life Insurance (Government Contributory) Amendment Act, 2008

Bill No. 14 – The Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials Repeal Act

Bill No. 26 – The Midwifery Amendment Act, 2008

**REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
RAPPORT DU COMITÉ PERMANENT DES SOCIÉTÉS D’ÉTAT ET DES ORGANISMES CENTRAUX**

The following Bill was reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was read the third time and passed: Le projet de loi suivant est rapporté sans amendement et avec la permission de l'Assemblée de passer outre au renvoi au Comité plénier, est lu une troisième fois et adopté:

Bill No. 29 – The Education Amendment Act, 2008

Projet de loi n° 29 – Loi de 2008 modifiant la Loi de 1995 sur l’éducation

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 588 to 594, they were answered. (See Appendix)

ADJOURNED DEBATES**Bill No. 37 – The Parks Amendment Act, 2008**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 37 – The Parks Amendment Act, 2008 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Taylor, adjourned.

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.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Yates, adjourned.

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.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Trew, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gantefoer:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:51 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

Consolidated Financial Statements for SaskPower International Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 193)

Financial Statements for Power Greenhouses Inc. (SaskPower Shand Greenhouse) for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 194)

Financial Statements for NorthPoint Energy Solutions Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 195)

Annual Report and Financial Statements for Power Corporation Superannuation Plan for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 196)

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for Saskatchewan Power Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 197)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Ms. Junor asked the Government the following Question No. 588, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

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?

Answer:

- (1) Linda West had been involved in a significant amount of planning for the trip in her role as Vice-President of Human Resources for the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. However, when her role with the health region changed, she continued to have involvement in the trip pending finalization of a contract with the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA).
- (2) Linda West's travel expenses were not covered by the provincial government.
- (3) See above.
- (4) Linda West has never been employed by the provincial government.
- (5) See above.

Ms. Junor asked the Government the following Question No. 589, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

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?

Answer:

- (1) There were no identified financial impacts for the Ministry of Health as a result of the strike.
- (2) N/A
- (3) N/A

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 590, which was answered by the Premier:

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?

Answer:

- (1) Prior to the election of November 2007, everyone who assisted in the preparation for a possible change of government was a volunteer. From November 21, 2007 onward, a small number of individuals were contracted to work with government ministry and Crown corporation staff in the transition process. From November 21, 2007 onward, five law firms were retained to provide assistance in the transition process.
- (2) From November 21, 2007 to date, there have been no volunteers involved in the transition process. The individuals contracted to assist with transition were Doug Emsley, Tracy Pugh, Ron Larson and Ruth Klassen-Burwell. The law firms retained and the lead counsel from each firm were: McLean-Keith – lead counsel Kenneth G. Love, Q.C. (until appointed to the 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.
- (3) The group chaired by the Deputy Premier consisted of 5 people.

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 591, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

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?

Answer:

- (1) The estimated cost of the proposed project is \$1.4 billion.
- (2) SaskPower's estimated cost is up to \$758 million.
- (3) Up to \$240 million coming from the government of Canada.
- (4) \$0 from the province of Saskatchewan.
- (5) The remainder (up to \$400 million) from private sector partners.

Mr. Harper asked the Government the following Question No. 592, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

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

Answer:

- (1) There were 742 injuries and 26 deaths on rural municipal roadways (grid and municipal combined) in 2006.
- (2) SGI 2007 data is preliminary as we are still compiling traffic collision data and the numbers have not been published.
- (3) 2008 data is unavailable.

Mr. Harper asked the Government the following Question No. 593, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

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

Answer:

- (1) There were 1,855 injuries and 86 deaths on provincial highways in 2006.
- (2) SGI 2007 data is preliminary as we are still compiling traffic collision data and the numbers have not been published.
- (3) 2008 data is unavailable.

Mr. Harper asked the Government the following Question No. 594, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

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

Answer:

- (1) There were 742 injuries and 26 deaths on rural municipal roadways (grid and municipal combined) in 2006.
- (2) SGI 2007 data is preliminary as we are still compiling traffic collision data and the numbers have not been published.
- (3) 2008 data is unavailable.

NOTICE OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

On Thursday:

Ms. Atkinson to move the following motion:

That this Assembly condemn the government for their failure to fulfill their commitments to rural Saskatchewan.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 33 and are to be answered by day no. 38:

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 616:

To the Premier: (1) What is the total number of employees in Executive Council? (2) How many are male and how many are female?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 617:

To the Premier: (1) What is the total number of employees in ministerial offices (combining all offices together for calculation purposes)? (2) How many employees are male and how many are female (combining all offices together for calculation purposes)?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 618:

To the Premier: Including Executive Council and all Ministers' offices together into one calculation, how many employees are male and how many are female in the executive government of the legislature?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 619:

To the Premier: Including Executive Council and all Ministers' offices together into one calculation, what is the mean and median of the overall employees' salaries in the executive government of the legislature?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 620:

To the Premier: Including Executive Council and all Ministers' offices together into one calculation, what is the mean and median of the male employees' salaries in the executive government of the legislature?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 621:

To the Premier: Including Executive Council and all Ministers' offices together into one calculation, what is the mean and median of the female employees' salaries in the executive government of the legislature?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 622:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the female employees' salaries in Ministers' offices (combining all offices together for calculation purposes)?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 623:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the male employees' salaries in Ministers' offices (combining all offices together for calculation purposes)?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 624:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the employees' salaries in Ministers' offices (combining all offices together for calculation purposes)?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 625:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the female employees' salaries in Executive Council?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 626:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the male employees' salaries in Executive Council?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 627:

To the Premier: What is the mean and median of the employees' salaries in Executive Council?