



No. 38

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

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: Yates, Forbes, Morin, Taylor, Broten and Vermette.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel 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 invest in an affordable housing program throughout the Battlefords and across Saskatchewan.

(Sessional Paper No. 134)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit to addressing the burden placed by high post-secondary tuition fees on Saskatchewan students.

(Sessional Paper No. 135)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit to expanding on-campus and off-campus housing options for Saskatchewan's students.

(Sessional Paper No. 136)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to expand affordable housing options for Saskatchewan's senior citizens.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 37)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause government ministers to use fuel efficient vehicles.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 64)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that CBO workers achieve wage equity.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 112)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately expand the Graduate Retention Program to include Masters and Ph.D. graduates.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 114)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to financially assist Duck Lake residents with exorbitant water rates.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 115)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to pave Highway 135 through the community of Pelican Narrows, as committed on August 24, 2007.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 127)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Mr. Allchurch, Chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Third Report of the said committee which is as follows:

Your committee has duly examined the under-mentioned Petitions for Private Bills and finds that the provisions of Rules 91, 92 and 95 have been fully complied with:

Of the Stephen and Micheline Worobetz Foundation, in the Province of Saskatchewan praying for an Act to amend *An Act to incorporate the Stephen and Micheline Worobetz Foundation Act*.

Of the Ancient Order of Melchizedeq, Inc., in the Province of Saskatchewan praying for an Act to provide for certain degree granting status for Hidden Land Institute / The Ancient Order of Melchizedeq, Inc.

(Sessional Paper No. 137)

On motion of Mr. Allchurch:

Ordered, That the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be now concurred in.

Thereupon the Clerk laid upon the Table the following Bills:

Bill No. 902 - The Stephen and Michelene Worobetz Foundation Amendment Act

(Mr. Calvert)

Bill No. 903 - The Ancient Order of Melchizedeq, Inc. Act

(Ms. Wilson)

The said Bills were deemed to have been read the first time, and ordered for Second Reading at the next sitting, pursuant to Rule 98.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 263 to 277, 279 to 280, 283 to 294 and 296 to 319, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 278, 281 and 282, the answers were tabled and, by reason of their length, converted by the Clerk to Return Nos. 39, 40 and 41 pursuant to Rule 20(6).

(Sessional Paper Nos. 138 to 140)

The Order of the Day being called for Question No. 295, pursuant to Rule 20(5), it was passed by the Assembly as an Order for Return No. 38, and an Order of the Assembly issued:

Mr. Calvert, for Return No. 38 showing:

It is well understood that public reporting is required for contracts over \$50,000. However, a large number of contracts being signed for just under \$50,000 could be done without any public scrutiny. This question has been asked multiple times and has not received any answer from the government. (1) Without revealing any more details than a single number, the number of contracts that were signed in 2008 where the amount of the contract was for more than \$40,000 and less than \$50,000. (2) Without revealing any more details than a single number, the number of contracts that were signed in 2007 where the amount of the contract was for more than \$40,000 and less than \$50,000. (3) Whether the government acknowledges that if there was a dramatic increase in these types of contracts that this is in the public's interest to know. (4) Whether the government agrees that the vague and ridiculous answers to this question when it has been repeatedly asked by the opposition borders on contempt of the legislature.

BUDGET DEBATE

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Gantefer, seconded by Mr. Reiter:

That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government,

And the proposed amendment thereto moved by Mr. Van Mulligen, seconded by Mr. Trew:

That all the words after "That the Assembly" be deleted and the following be added:

"condemn this government for the return to poor fiscal management in the budget process and increasing the debt of the province."

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, the Assembly recessed from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Broten asked the Government the following Question No. 263, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Norris:

To the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour: (1) How many people have been brought into Saskatchewan under the Immigration Nominee program in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?

Answer:

- (1) 960 provincial nominees landed.
- (2) 1,838 provincial nominees landed.
- (3) 3,036 provincial nominees landed.

Please note these answers are for the calendar year.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 264, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new single individuals received the Seniors Income Plan in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 72
- (2) 45
- (3) 5,041
- (4) 100

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 265, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received parent support workshops in the northeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 43
- (2) 56
- (3) 53
- (4) 49

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 266, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received parent support workshops in the northwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) None. There is no parent support services in the northwest region.
- (2) Same as above.
- (3) Same as above.
- (4) Same as above.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 267, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received parent support workshops in the centre region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 39
- (2) 55
- (3) 64
- (4) 75

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 268, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received parent support workshops in the southwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 32
- (2) 67
- (3) 62
- (4) 64

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 269, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many couples received the Seniors Income Plan in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 1,053
- (2) 1,055
- (3) 2,436
- (4) 2,414

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 270, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many vacancies are there in the province of Saskatchewan for registered nurses (RNs) as of January 1, 2009? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) As of December 31, 2008 the health regions reported a total of 435.9 full time equivalent (FTE) vacant RN positions by health region as follows:
 - Sun Country - 19.6 FTEs
 - Five Hills - 5.2 FTEs
 - Cypress - 15.2 FTEs
 - Regina Qu'Appelle - 133.6 FTEs
 - Sunrise - 27.2 FTEs
 - Saskatoon - 115.4 FTEs
 - Heartland - 11.2 FTEs
 - Kelsey Trail - 11 FTEs
 - Prince Albert Parkland - 56.2 FTEs
 - Prairie North - 24.8 FTEs
 - Mamawetan Churchill River - 8.5 FTEs
 - Keewatin Yatthe - 7 FTEs
 - Saskatchewan Cancer Agency - 1 FTE
 - Total - 435.9 FTEs

- (2) The Ministry of Health, the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses (SUN) and regional health authorities agreed at the Government/SUN partnership table, to conduct quarterly nursing surveys last fall. The Regional Health Authorities are the source for this statistic using the vacancy survey agreed to at the Government/SUN partnership table. Regional health authorities will complete the next nursing survey as of March 31, 2009.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 271, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as registered nurses (RNs) as of January 1, 2009? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) The number of full time equivalent (FTEs) nurses affiliated with the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses (SUN) and employed by regional health authorities for the period from April 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 was 6,041.17 FTEs. This number includes both in-scope RNs and RPNs, but does not capture any out-of-scope RNs.
- (2) The data source for this information comes from the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations [SAHO] payroll - Paid FTE Report. This data source does not provide the ability to accurately break out RN and RPN numbers.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 272, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: What was the official list for the priority of capital investments into health care facilities projects as of January 1, 2008?

Answer:

As of January 1, 2008, the priority for capital investments of health care facilities was determined through the evaluation of the facility condition index (FCI) by VFA Canada Inc. This evaluation indicated a required investment of \$1.1B, or about 25% of the total asset replacement value for the health system of \$4.4B, in order to bring our facilities up to a higher standard. Facility investment priorities included life safety/emergency projects.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 273, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many vacancies are there in the province of Saskatchewan for licensed practical nurses (LPNs) as of January 1, 2009? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) The number of vacant licensed practical nursing positions in Saskatchewan as of December 31, 2008 was 48, broken down as follows: 6 - permanent full time, 17 - temporary full time, 7 - permanent part time and 18 - temporary part time.
- (2) The data source for this information is the www.HealthCareersInSask.ca web site. The number of vacant positions reported is based on vacancies posted by the regional health authorities and the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency on the website.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 274, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as licensed practical nurses (LPNs) as of January 1, 2007? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) In Saskatchewan, as of December 31, 2006 a total of 2,345 LPNs were licensed as practicing members of the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.
- (2) The data source for this information is the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 275, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as licensed practical nurses (LPNs) as of January 1, 2008? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) In Saskatchewan, as of December 31, 2007 a total of 2,558 LPNs were licensed as practicing members of the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.
- (2) The data source for this information is the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 276, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as licensed practical nurses (LPNs) as of January 1, 2009? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) In Saskatchewan, as of December 31, 2008 a total of 2,673 LPNs were licensed as practicing members of the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.
- (2) The data source for this information is the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 277, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: What was the official list for the priority of capital investments into health care facilities projects as of January 1, 2009?

Answer:

As of January 1, 2009, the priority for capital investments included replacement of smaller scale long-term care facilities in the province. In alignment with the Government of Canada's approach to infrastructure investment, the focus of priorities included the acceleration of projects in order to stimulate Saskatchewan's economy in light of the world-wide economic down turn.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 279, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as registered nurses (RNs) as of January 1, 2008? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) The number of full time equivalent (FTEs) nurses affiliated with the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses (SUN) and employed by regional health authorities for the period from April 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007 was 5,896.05 FTEs. This number includes both in-scope RNs and RPNs, but does not capture any out-of-scope RNs.
- (2) The data source for this information comes from the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations [SAHO] payroll - Paid FTE Report. This data source does not provide the ability to accurately break out RN and RPN numbers.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 280, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

To the Minister of Health: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as registered nurses (RNs) as of January 1, 2007? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) The number of full time equivalent (FTEs) nurses affiliated with the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses (SUN) and employed by regional health authorities for the period from April 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006 was 5,903.7 FTEs. This number includes both in-scope RNs and RPNs, but does not capture any out-of-scope RNs.
- (2) The data source for this information comes from the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations [SAHO] payroll - Paid FTE Report. This data source does not provide the ability to accurately break out RN and RPN numbers.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 283, which was answered by the Premier:

To the Premier: (1) How many new SAP cases were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 1,179
- (2) 1,298
- (3) 1,176
- (4) 1,260

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 284, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received parent support workshops in the southeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) None. There is no parent support services in the Southeast region.
- (2) Same as above.
- (3) Same as above.
- (4) Same as above.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 285, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received Income Assistance in the northwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 64
- (2) 88
- (3) 60
- (4) 74

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 286, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received Income Assistance in the centre region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 144
- (2) 132
- (3) 155
- (4) 172

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 287, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received Income Assistance in the southeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 44
- (2) 45
- (3) 37
- (4) 46

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 288, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP/TEA cases were open in the northwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 2,764
- (2) 2,826
- (3) 2,867
- (4) 2,867

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 289, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP/TEA cases were open in the centre region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 6,621
- (2) 6,610
- (3) 6,775
- (4) 6,882

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 290, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP/TEA cases were open in the southwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 7,265
- (2) 7,349
- (3) 7,395
- (4) 7,463

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 291, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP/TEA cases were open in the southeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 1,484
- (2) 1,488
- (3) 1,526
- (4) 1,548

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 292, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many people were receiving SIP in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 9,967
- (2) 9,959
- (3) 18,763
- (4) 18,674

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 293, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP cases involved people who were employable were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 4,638
- (2) 4,581
- (3) 4,656
- (4) 4,717

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 294, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP cases involved families with children were employable were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 2,852
- (2) 2,775
- (3) 2,797
- (4) 2,854

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 296, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received Income Assistance in the northeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 108
- (2) 119
- (3) 122
- (4) 113

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 297, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many TEA cases were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 2,266
- (2) 2,489
- (3) 2,722
- (4) 2,813

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 298, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP cases were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 21,412
- (2) 21,428
- (3) 21,587
- (4) 21,766

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 299, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: On November 24, 2008 the ministry issued a press release concerning support for those living with disabilities that said, "The first phase of the new income plan will be implemented in 2009/10, following consultations with the disability community." Based on this statement, please provide answers to the following questions: (1) When are these consultations taking place? (2) In which communities are the consultations being held? (3) Will the public be allowed to attend the consultations? (4) Will all those receiving some form of disability benefits from the Ministry of Social Services receive notice of these consultations?

Answer:

- (1) The consultations on the new income program for people with disabilities will take place on Monday, March 30, 2009, Wednesday, April 1, 2009 and Monday, April 6, 2009.
- (2) The consultations are being held in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.
- (3) The consultations are open to the public.
- (4) Invitations have been sent to over 100 disability related agencies, associations and advocacy groups with a request that they share the invite with their members. Sending direct notices to all current recipients of various disability benefits was determined to not be practical or feasible.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 300, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: What actions is the government of Saskatchewan undertaking to ensure the quick ratification and full implementation by the Saskatchewan government and the federal government of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its optional protocol?

Answer:

Authority to ratify international treaties like the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) rests with the federal Executive. However, because the CRPD has implications for provincial and territorial (PT) governments, PT governments are conducting their own analyses, in consultation with the federal government. That process is underway in Saskatchewan. Canada is not a signatory to the Optional Protocol.

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 301, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the number of individuals who lived in independent living situations paid by the Community Living Division for each month of 2007? (2) 2008?

Answer:

The statistics provided address the number of individuals in Ministry-funded Supported Independent Living Programs.

(1) 2007

Jan	439
Feb	436
Mar	435
Apr	437
May	441
Jun	431
Jul	435
Aug	436
Sep	441
Oct	436
Nov	438
Dec	442

(2) 2008

Jan	452
Feb	448
Mar	451
Apr	438
May	439
Jun	435
Jul	431
Aug	433
Sep	435
Oct	442
Nov	446
Dec	445

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 302, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the number of individuals who lived in group living homes for each month of 2007? (2) 2008?

Answer:

(1) 2007

Jan	55
Feb	55
Mar	54
Apr	58
May	58
Jun	57
Jul	57
Aug	58
Sep	58
Oct	59
Nov	59

Dec	59
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(2) 2008

Jan	61
Feb	61
Mar	62
Apr	64
May	66
Jun	68
Jul	69
Aug	71
Sep	76
Oct	77
Nov	78
Dec	78

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 303, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the number of individuals who lived in group homes for each month of 2007? (2) 2008?

Answer:

(1) 2007

Jan	711
Feb	709
Mar	711
Apr	722
May	727
Jun	726
Jul	732
Aug	734
Sep	735
Oct	737
Nov	736
Dec	726

(2) 2008

Jan	741
Feb	747
Mar	748
Apr	743
May	746
Jun	744
Jul	747
Aug	749
Sep	751
Oct	755
Nov	753
Dec	757

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 304, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the current range of cost of care, the current median cost of care and the current average cost, paid by the Community Living Division of care for group home spaces? (2) Group living homes? (3) Independent living situations?

Answer:

The following statistics are based upon 2008/09 annualized costs.

(1) Group Home Spaces

Average	\$ 59,420
Median	\$ 56,918
Min	\$ 21,665
Max	\$ 133,311

(2) Group Living Homes

Average	\$ 69,616
Median	\$ 63,658
Min	\$ 25,878
Max	\$ 137,619

(3) Independent Living Situations (i.e. supported independent living programs)

Average	\$ 11,452
Median	\$ 12,350
Min	\$ 4,575
Max	\$ 22,901

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 305, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP cases involved people living with disabilities were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 13,275
- (2) 13,321
- (3) 13,388
- (4) 13,419

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 306, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many single individuals received the Seniors Income Plan in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 7,177
- (2) 7,170
- (3) 12,790
- (4) 12,754

Mr. Calvert asked the Government the following Question No. 307, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new couples with children received the Seniors Income Plan in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) Information about senior couples with children is not a reporting requirement for the federal Old Age Security pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement and therefore, not available to the Seniors Income Plan program.
- (2) Same as above.
- (3) Same as above.
- (4) Same as above.

Mr. Yates asked the Government the following Question No. 308, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hickie:

To the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as police officers (not including RCMP) as of January 1, 2007? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) Corrections, Public Safety and Policing does not have data within its Ministry records indicating how many people were employed in the Province of Saskatchewan as police officers (not including RCMP) as of January 1, 2007. That information can be obtained by interested parties from each of Saskatchewan's Municipal Police Services directly. However, the number of police officers in Saskatchewan (not including RCMP) as of October 17, 2006 was 917.
- (2) The information provided as of October 17, 2006 was provided to Corrections, Public Safety and Policing directly by each of Saskatchewan's Municipal police services.

Mr. Yates asked the Government the following Question No. 309, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hickie:

To the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as police officers (not including RCMP) as of January 1, 2008? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) There were 949 police officers (not including RCMP) employed in Saskatchewan as of January 1, 2008.
- (2) The source cited for the January 1, 2008 statistic is provided directly by the police services.

Mr. Yates asked the Government the following Question No. 310, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hickie:

To the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: (1) How many people were employed in the province of Saskatchewan as police officers (not including RCMP) as of January 1, 2009? (2) What source are you citing for this statistic?

Answer:

- (1) There were 988 police officers (not including RCMP) employed in Saskatchewan as of January 1, 2009.
- (2) The source cited for the January 1, 2009 statistic is provided directly by the police services.

Mr. Yates asked the Government the following Question No. 311, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Hickie:

To the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: In the answer to Written Question No. 196, you acknowledged changes to the policy manual in your ministry since November 7, 2007. (1) Exactly how many changes have been made to the manual that deals with escaped prisoners? (2) Which sections of the policy manual have been changed? (3) When were those sections changed?

Answer:

- (1) The Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing continually reviews and makes changes to various policies within operational manuals which relate directly and indirectly to prisoner escapes. As such, an exact number cannot be determined.
- (2) Changes have been made to various sections of the manuals to address operational needs.
- (3) The Ministry makes changes to sections of the manuals as need arises.

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 312, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) Is there any RFP or other process in place for contracting out of any service or component of SaskPower? (2) If so, which services or components?

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Currently have two RFPs outstanding for power generation.

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 313, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) Is there any RFP or other process in place for contracting out of any service or component of SaskTel? (2) If so, which services or components?

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) As of March 15, 2009, SaskTel's process is to list these on the SaskTel website.

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 314, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) When the decision was made to sell EZ Finder Phonebooks by SaskTel, was a third-party review undertaken? (2) If so, by what company?

Answer:

- (1) A third party review was not required. SaskTel received a critique by Deloitte to ensure that it had established a proper value for the business.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 315, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) Is there any RFP or other process in place for contracting out of any service or component of SaskEnergy? (2) If so, which services or components?

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Contracted distribution, transmission and storage services have existed for many years within SaskEnergy and provide specific expertise and peak capacity to the Corporation. SaskEnergy has the following proposal calls in the marketplace related to its business operations.
 - Land Agent Services
 - Construction Services

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 316, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) When the decision was made to sell EZ Finder Phonebooks were the shares in Canpages purchased by SaskTel or were they given freely by Canpages? (2) If they were purchased by SaskTel, what was the price-per-share valuation? (3) Who performed this valuation?

Answer:

- (1) The shares were provided to SaskTel as part of the consideration for the sale of the DWC assets.
- (2) N/A
- (3) N/A

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 317, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) Is there any RFP or other process in place for contracting out of any service or component of SaskWater? (2) If so, which services or components?

Answer:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Personal service contracts to provide day to day certified operator services.

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 318, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) When the decision was made to contract out e-mail provision by SaskTel was a third-party review undertaken? (2) If so, by what company?

Answer:

- (1) SaskTel is currently analyzing upgrading its email platform. A third party review is not required. Executive approval will be required.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Trew asked the Government the following Question No. 319, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) When the decision was made to contract out the conference calling capabilities by SaskTel was a third-party review undertaken? (2) If so, by what company?

Answer:

- (1) A review was not required. The SaskTel executive approved the business decision.
- (2) N/A

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 37 and are to be answered by day no. 42:

Mr. Trew, to ask the Government the following Question No. 320:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) What is the debt/equity ratio as of January 1, 2009 for SaskTel? (2) SaskEnergy? (3) SaskPower? (4) SaskWater? (5) SGI? (6) STC?

Mr. Trew, to ask the Government the following Question No. 321:

To the Minister of Crown Corporations: (1) What is the expected debt/equity ratio after all borrowing in the 2009/10 budget is taken into account for SaskTel? (2) SaskEnergy? (3) SaskPower? (4) SaskWater? (5) SGI? (6) STC?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 322:

To the Minister of Education: Was the Ministry of Justice or a third party asked to perform a constitutional analysis as to the validity of the new property tax regime as it applies to separate school divisions?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 323:

To the Premier: (1) Was any outside communications firm given a mandate as part of a current contract to obtain coverage on CNN for the news story that was covered about Saskatchewan? (2) If so, how much was paid for this purpose?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 324:

To the Premier: (1) Was any outside communications firm contacted for the specific purpose of obtaining coverage on CNN for the news story that was covered about Saskatchewan? (2) If so, how much was paid for this purpose?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 325:

To the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour: (1) Which employees were affected by the change in FTEs in the 2009/10 budget for Occupation, Health and Safety? (2) Please provide job titles and positions without revealing names.

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 326:

To the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure: (1) How many expropriations of land (not negotiated settlements) were there in 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008? (4) 2009 to date?

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 38 and are to be answered by day no. 43:

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 327:

To the Minister of Social Services: On page 7 of the document “Putting Children First, Addressing the Challenge” put out on February 25, 2009 by your Ministry, the following statement is made: “This project has been promised as far back as 2004”. What source do you have for this statement?

Ms. Atkinson, to ask the Government the following Question No. 328:

To the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour: (1) How many people, including family members, were nominated by the province of Saskatchewan under the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) for the calendar year 2006? (2) 2007? (3) 2008?