



No. 39

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, March 25, 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: Higgins, 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 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)

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.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 134)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following Bills were received, read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time at the next sitting:

Bill No. 84 – The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2009

(Hon. Mr. Stewart)

Bill No. 85 – The Municipal Grants Act

(Hon. Mr. Hutchinson)

Bill No. 86 – The Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission Amendment Act, 2009

(Hon. Mr. Morgan)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr. Van Mulligen, Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented the First Report of the said committee.

(Sessional Paper No. 141)

On motion of Mr. Van Mulligen:

Ordered, That the First Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be now concurred in.

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 Speaker adjourned the Assembly without question put, pursuant to Rule 6(6).

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

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?